



LEGION OF
SUPER-HEROES

17

APR 91

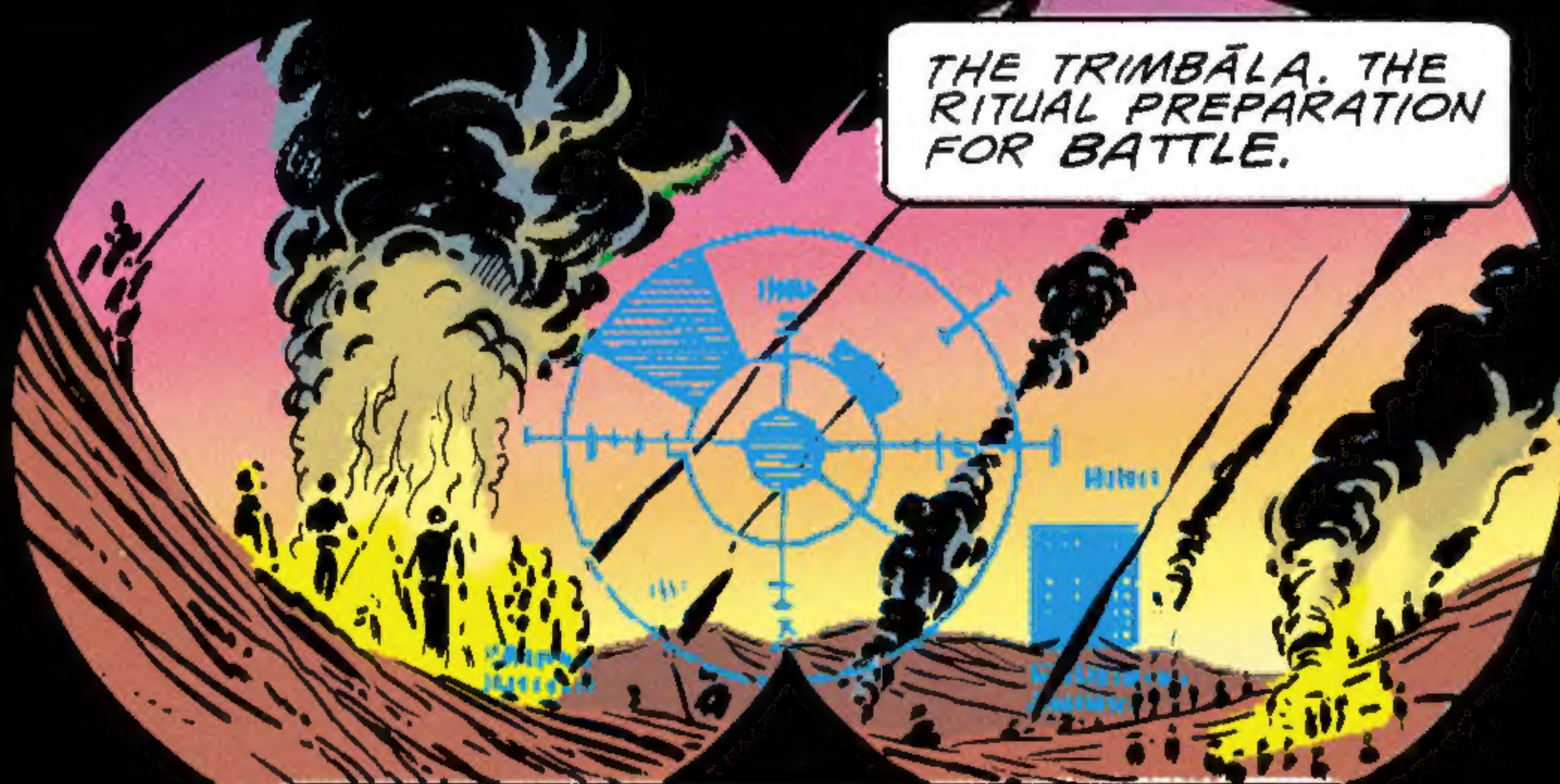
LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES

THE
LAST
BATTLE

T & M BIERBAUM
BRANDON PETERSON
KEITH GIFFEN
CARLOS GARZON
AL GORDON



TALOK VIII ...



THE TRIMBĀLA. THE RITUAL PREPARATION FOR BATTLE.

NORMALLY CONDUCTED IN SECRET-- UNLESS THE HILL PEOPLE ARE EXTREMELY CONFIDENT OF VICTORY.



BUT THEN, WHY AM I TELLING YOU ABOUT THE TRIM-BALA WHEN THEY'RE YOUR PEOPLE--IT'S YOUR CUSTOM.

GREVI, YOU KNOW I HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH THIS ATTACK.



YES. AND YOU ALSO DID NOTHING TO STOP IT.



SO WHAT IF THE HILL PEOPLE OVERRUN THE CITIES?

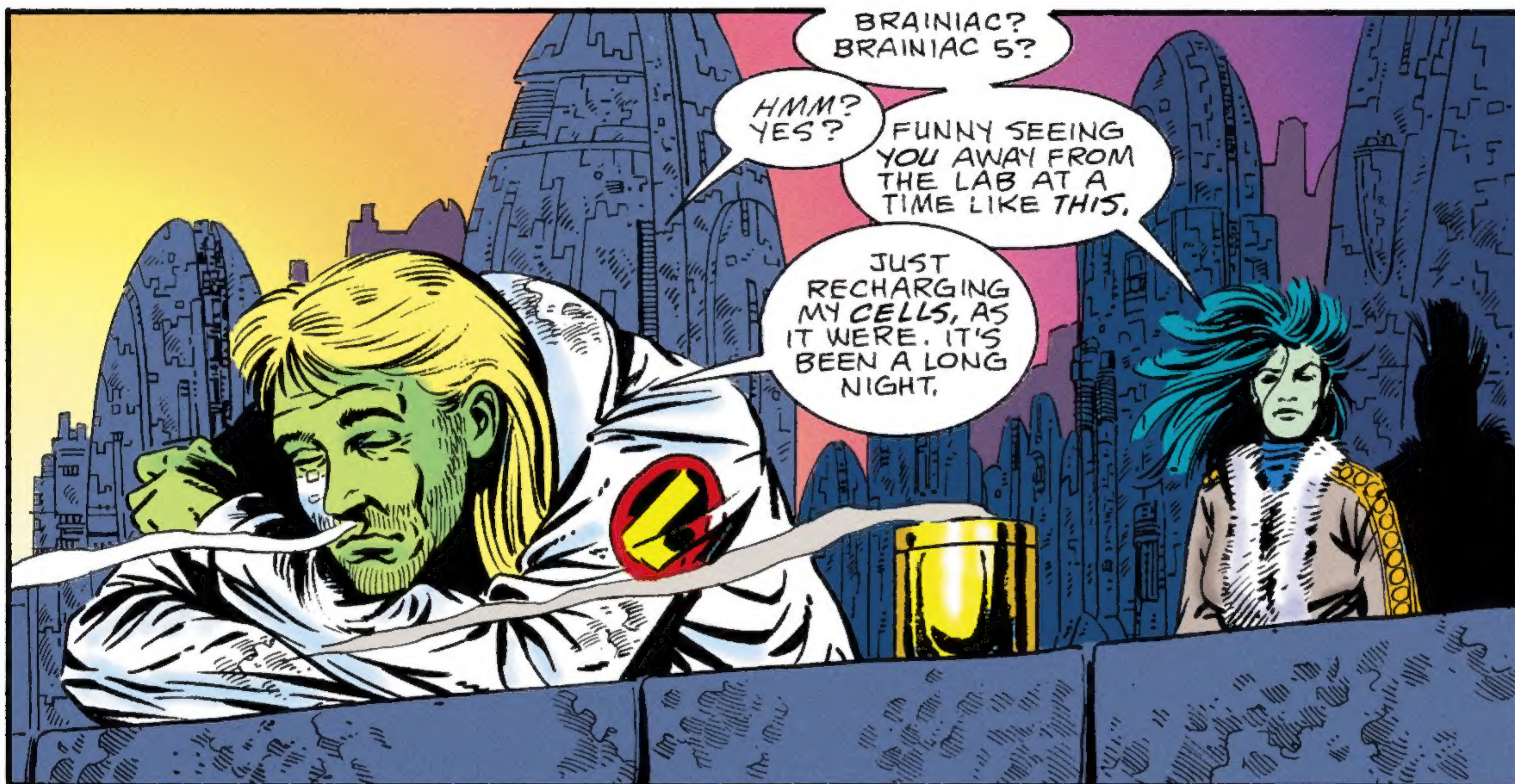
YOU WOULDN'T MIND HAVING YOUR PEOPLE BACK IN POWER AGAIN.



EVEN IF IT MEANS ALIGNING WITH THE KHUNDS.



EVEN IF IT MEANS SAYING GOOD-BYE TO THE CITY, AND OUR WAY OF LIFE FOREVER.



BRAINIAC?
BRAINIAC 5?

HMM?
YES?

FUNNY SEEING
YOU AWAY FROM
THE LAB AT A
TIME LIKE THIS.

JUST
RECHARGING
MY CELLS, AS
IT WERE. IT'S
BEEN A LONG
NIGHT.

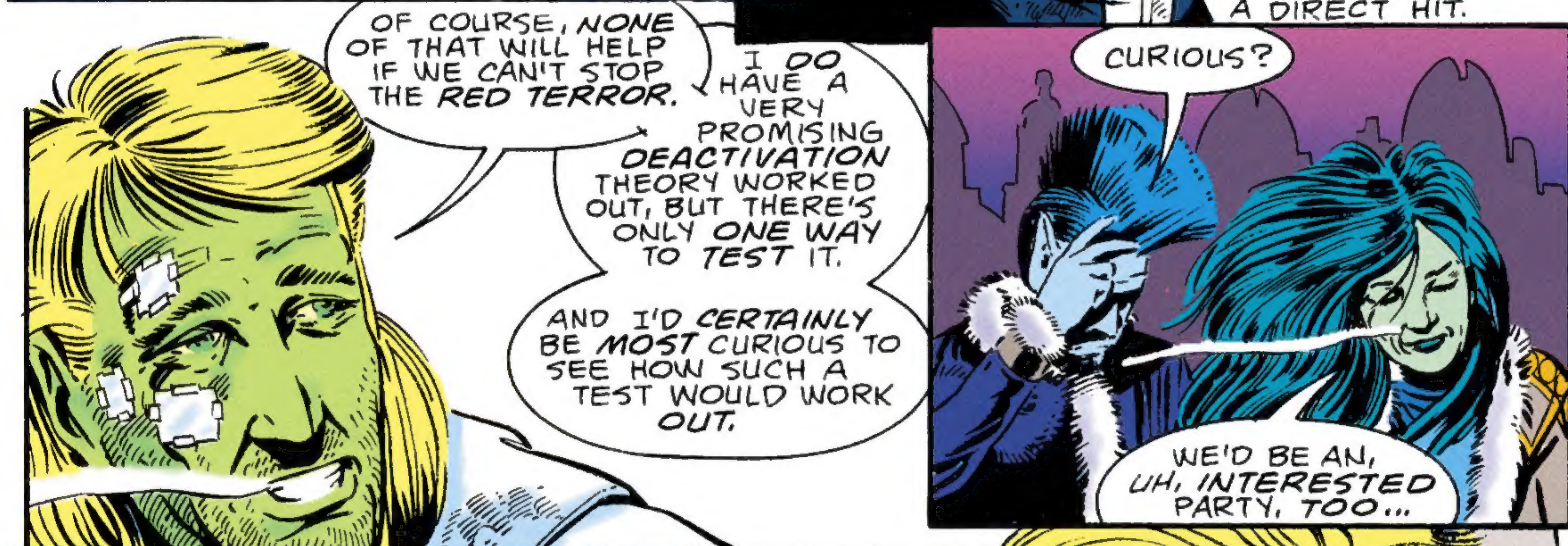


SEVERAL LONG
NIGHTS, MORE
LIKE IT.

PROGRESS? WELL,
THEIR ANTI-MATTER
FUSION AND GAMMA
ENERGY WEAPONS HAVE
BEEN RIPPING THROUGH
OUR ARMIES.

ARE YOU MAKING
ANY *PROGRESS* WITH
THE ANTIQUE WEAPONRY?

BUT WITH
THE NEW
SHIELDING
WE'VE DEVELOPED,
OUR SOLDIERS
MIGHT JUST BE
ABLE TO SURVIVE
A DIRECT HIT.



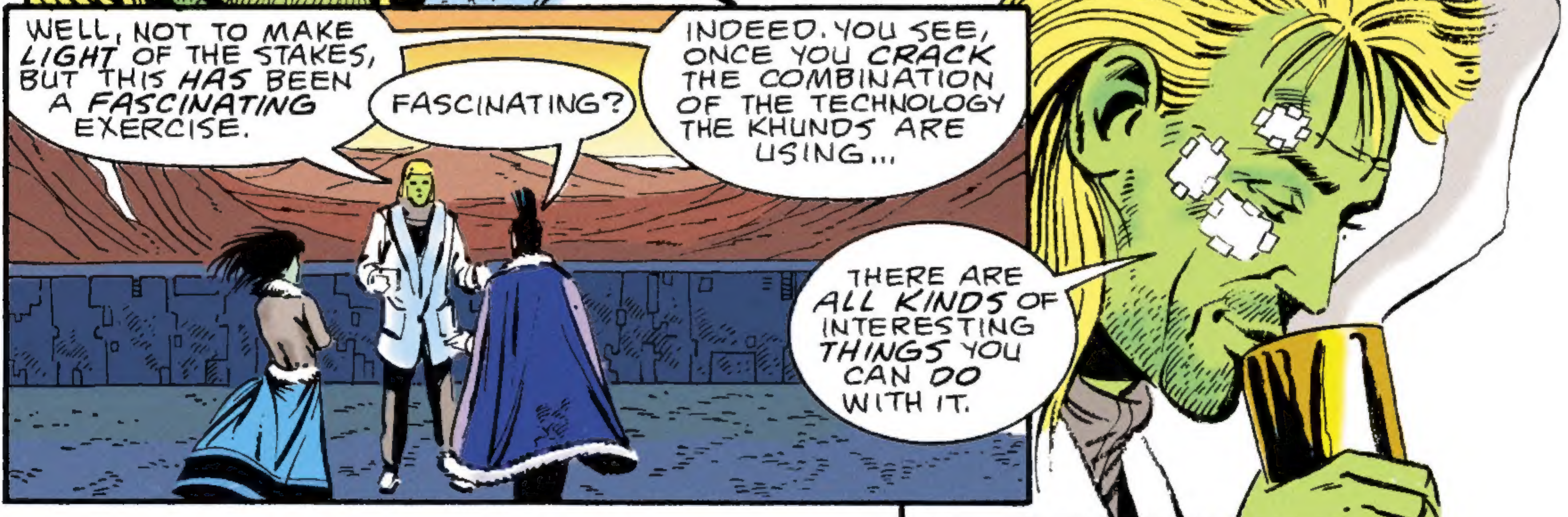
OF COURSE, NONE
OF THAT WILL HELP
IF WE CAN'T STOP
THE *RED TERROR*.

I DO
HAVE A
VERY
PROMISING
DEACTIVATION
THEORY WORKED
OUT, BUT THERE'S
ONLY ONE WAY
TO TEST IT.

AND I'D CERTAINLY
BE MOST CURIOUS TO
SEE HOW SUCH A
TEST WOULD WORK
OUT.

CURIOUS?

WE'D BE AN,
UH, INTERESTED
PARTY, TOO...

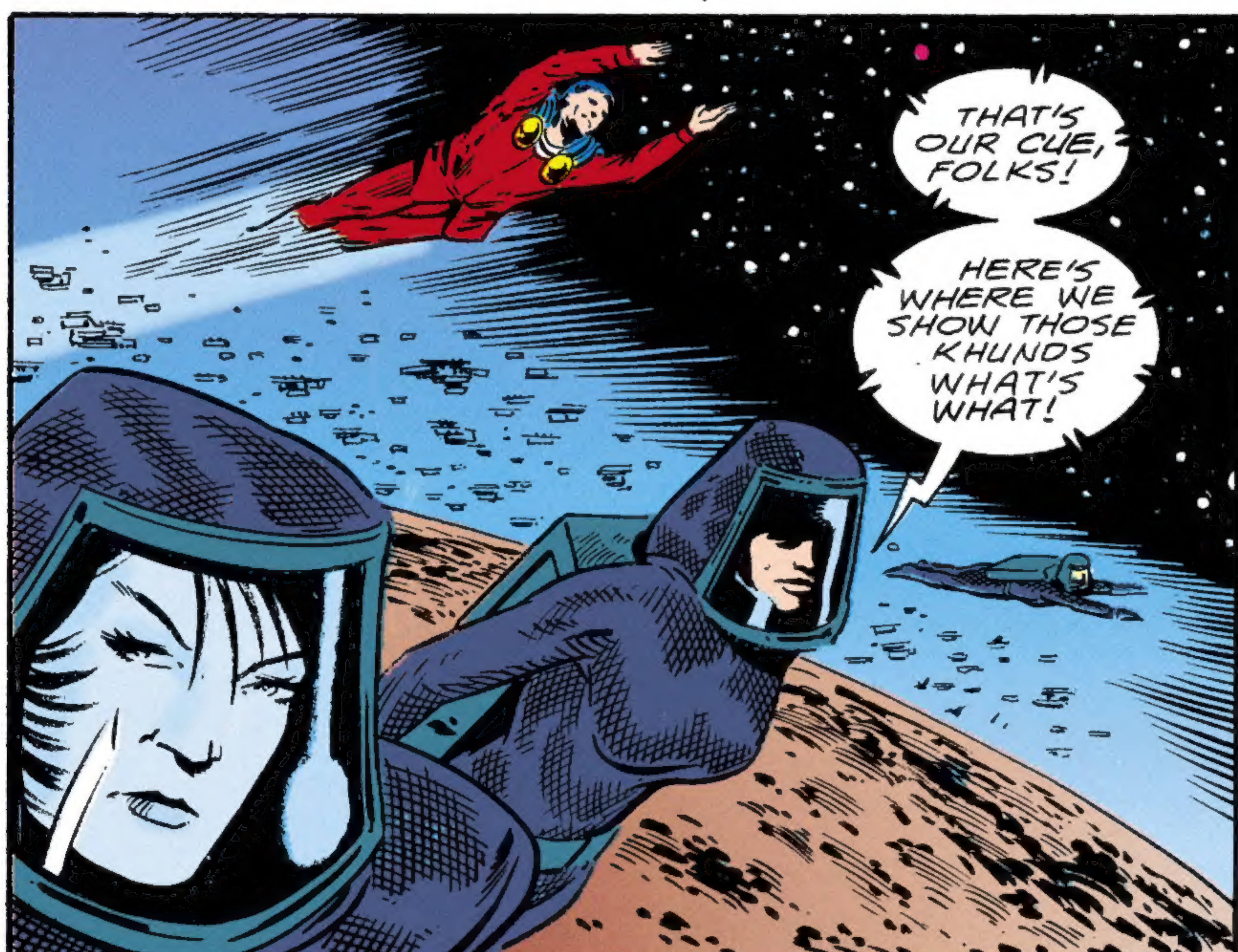
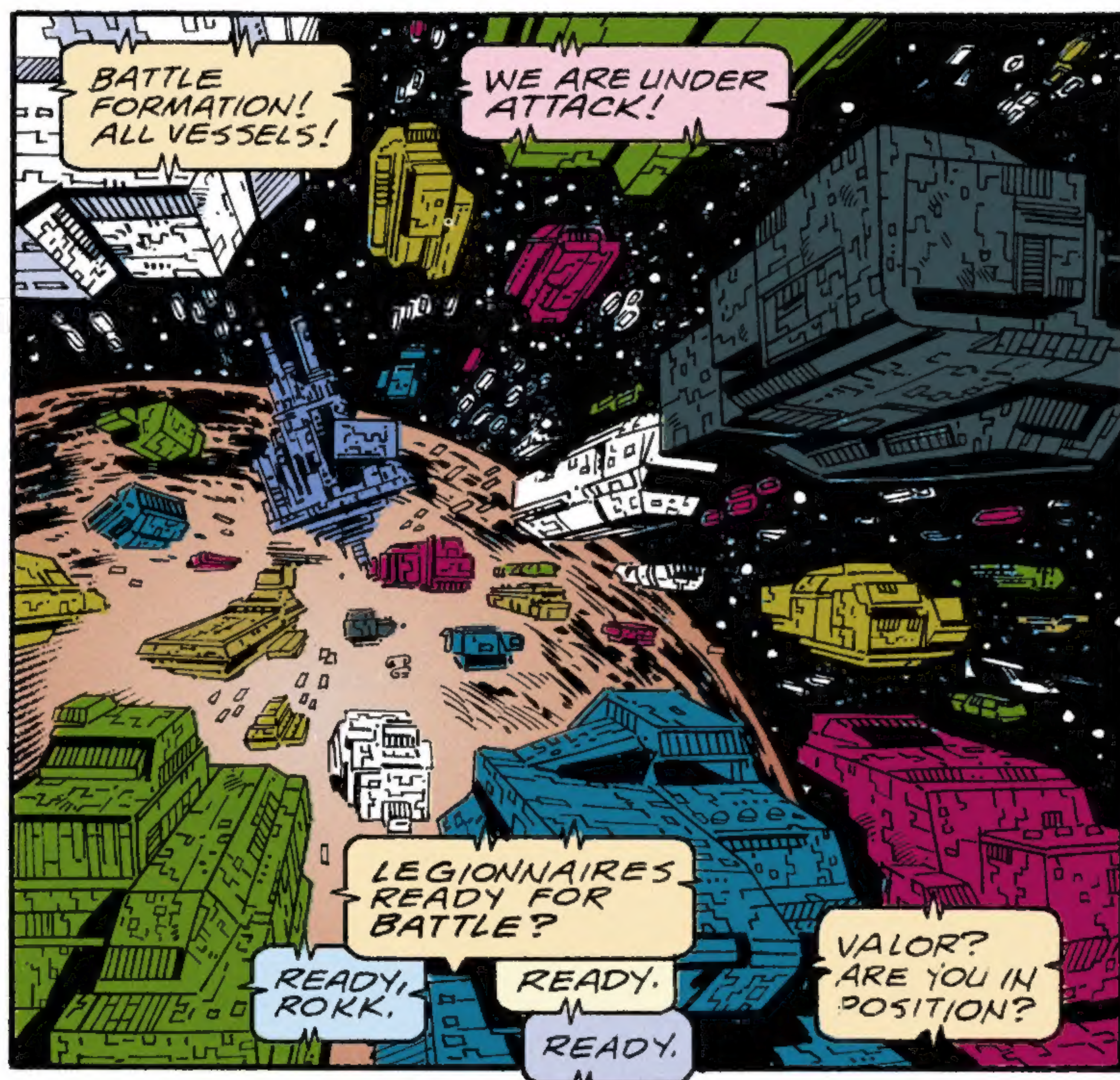
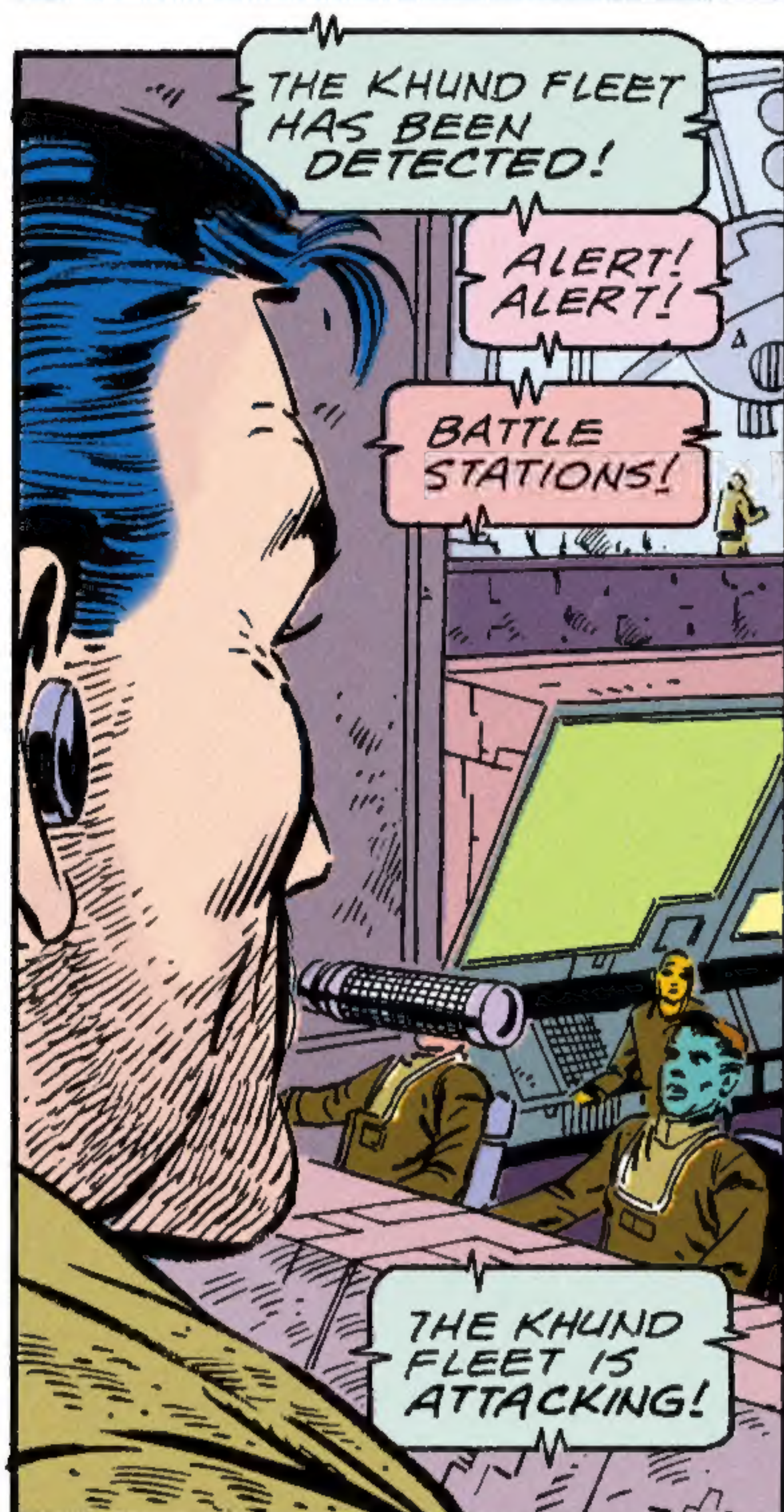
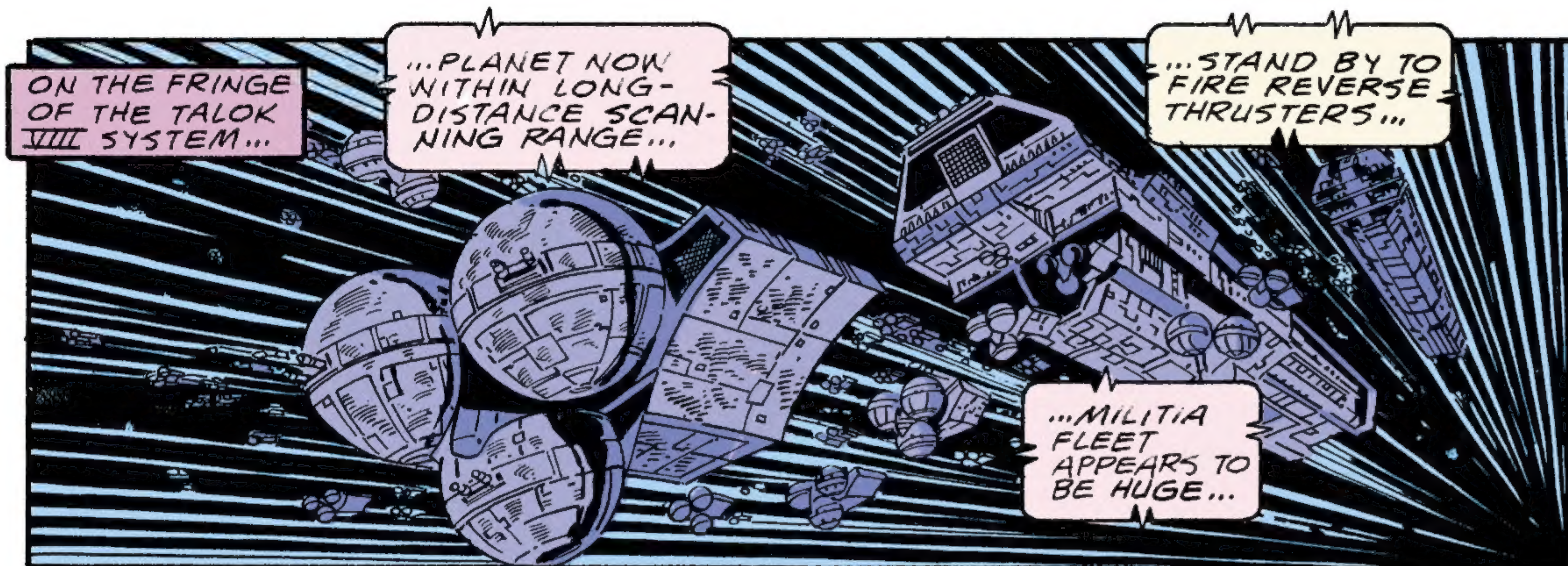


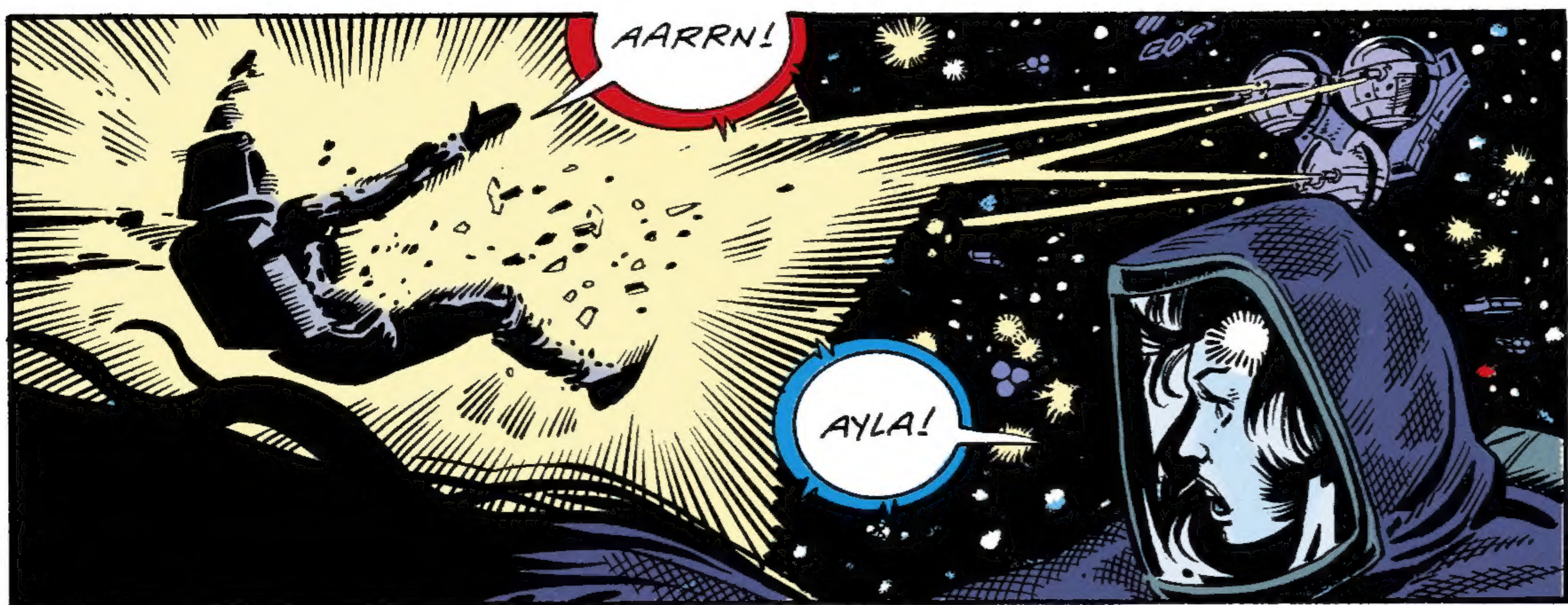
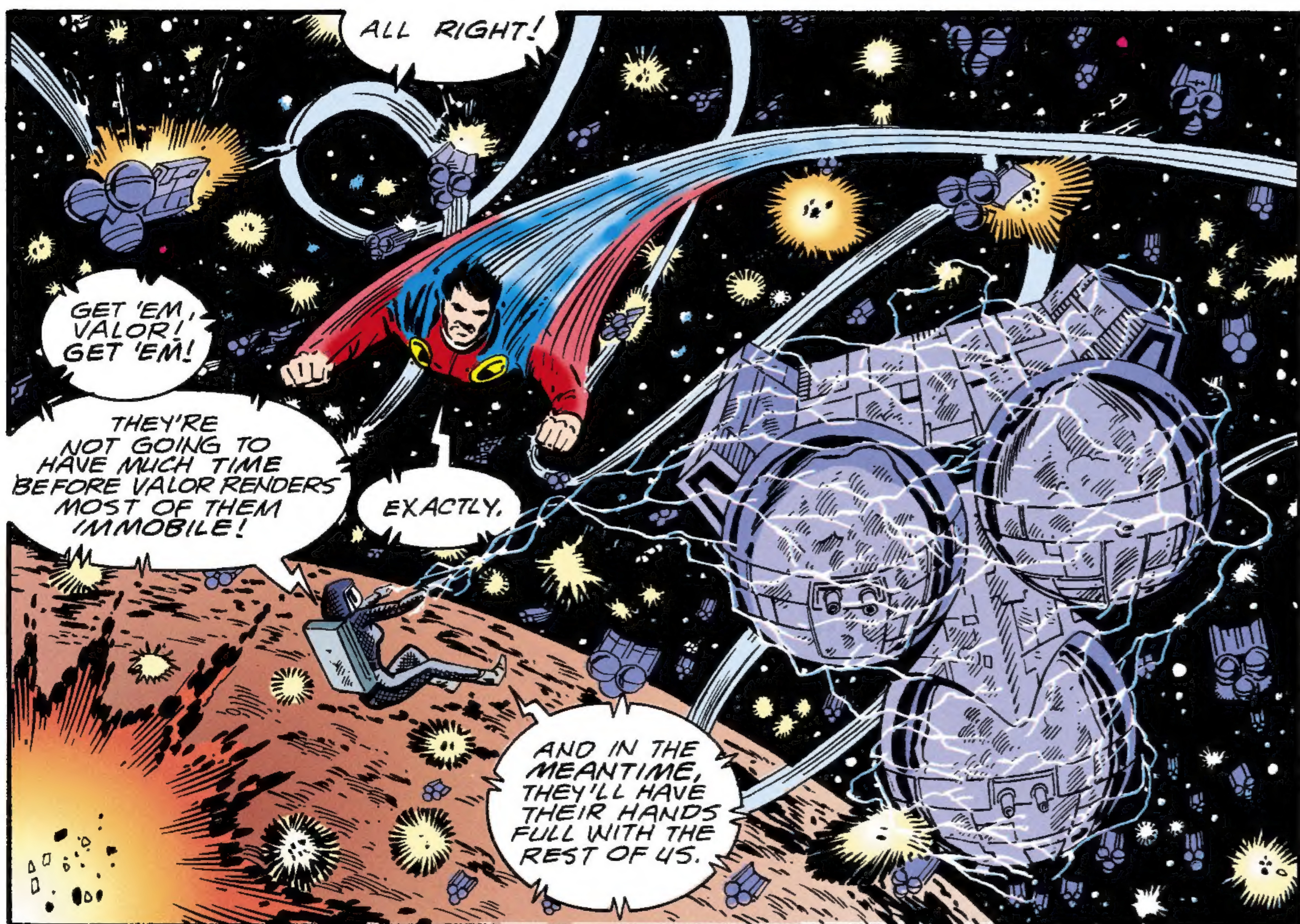
WELL, NOT TO MAKE
LIGHT OF THE STAKES,
BUT THIS HAS BEEN
A *FASCINATING*
EXERCISE.

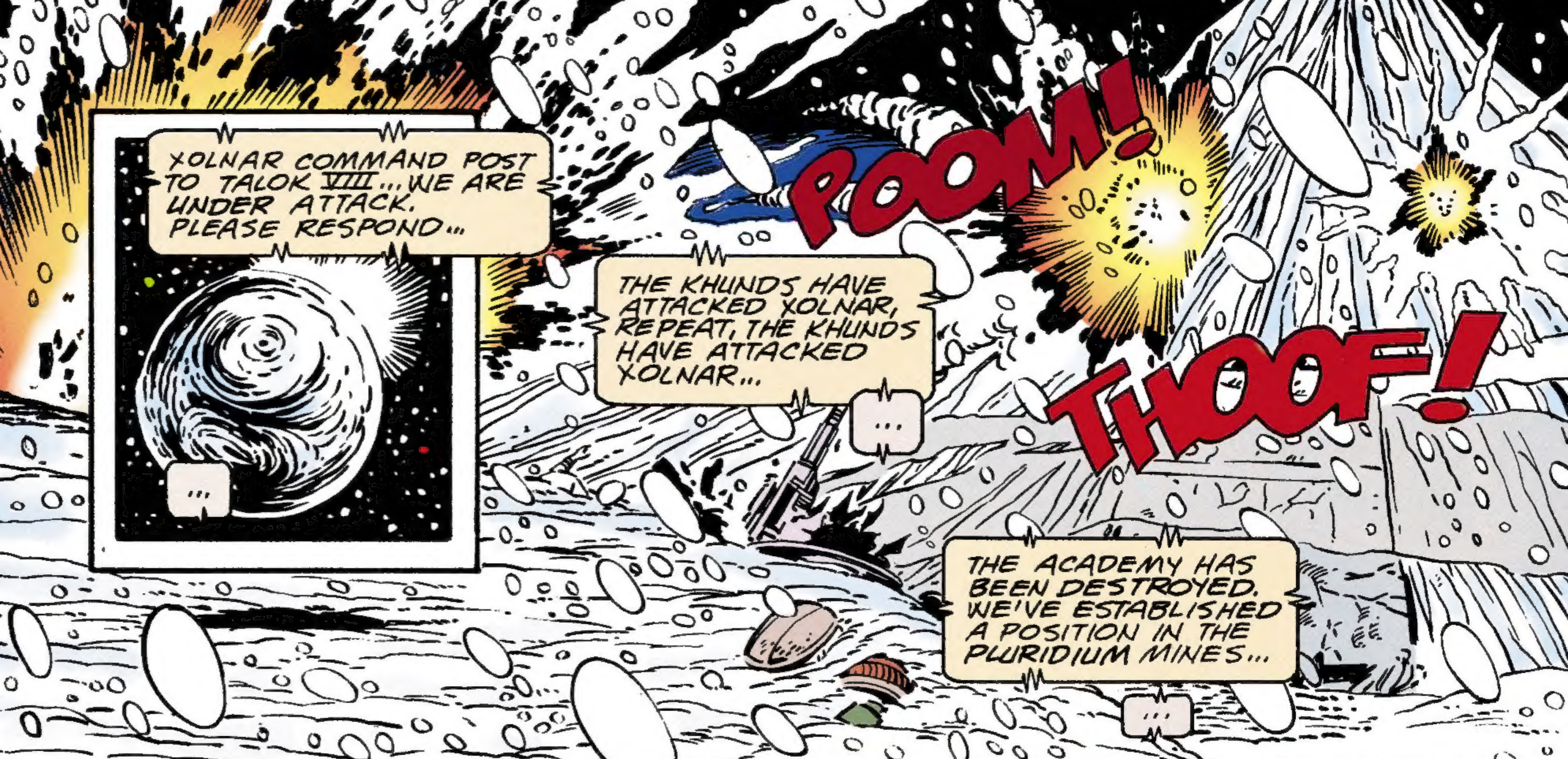
FASCINATING?

INDEED. YOU SEE,
ONCE YOU CRACK
THE COMBINATION
OF THE TECHNOLOGY
THE KHUNDS ARE
USING...

THERE ARE
ALL KINDS OF
INTERESTING
THINGS YOU
CAN DO
WITH IT.







XOLNAR COMMAND POST TO TALOK VIII... WE ARE UNDER ATTACK. PLEASE RESPOND...

POOM!

TWOOF!

THE KHUNDS HAVE ATTACKED XOLNAR, REPEAT, THE KHUNDS HAVE ATTACKED XOLNAR...

THE ACADEMY HAS BEEN DESTROYED. WE'VE ESTABLISHED A POSITION IN THE PLURIDIUM MINES...



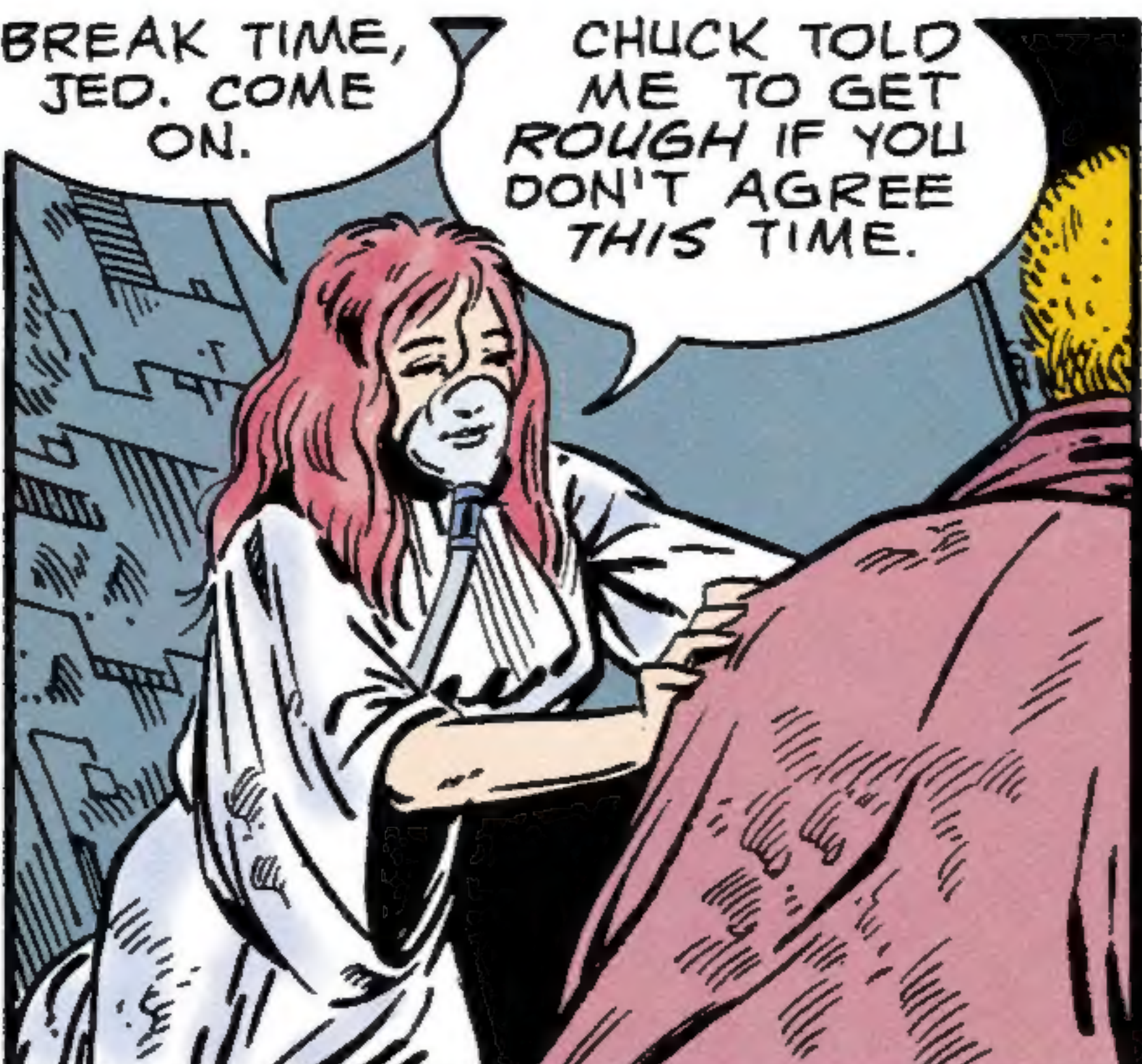
XOLNAR COMMAND POST TO TALOK VIII...

PLEASE RESPOND...



MAINTAIN FIRE!

THEY AIN'T GETTIN' THE MINES AS LONG AS ANY OF US ARE STANDING!



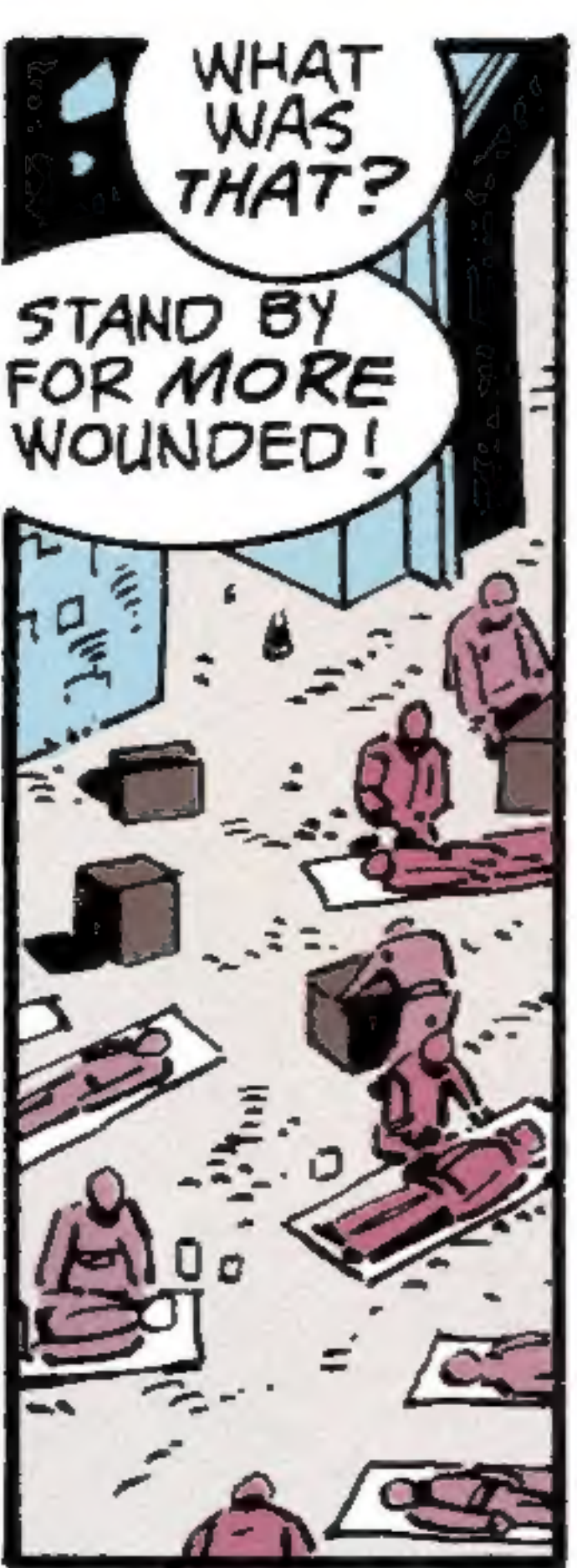
BREAK TIME, JED. COME ON.

CHUCK TOLD ME TO GET ROUGH IF YOU DON'T AGREE THIS TIME.

UH-OH! CAN'T RISK THAT!

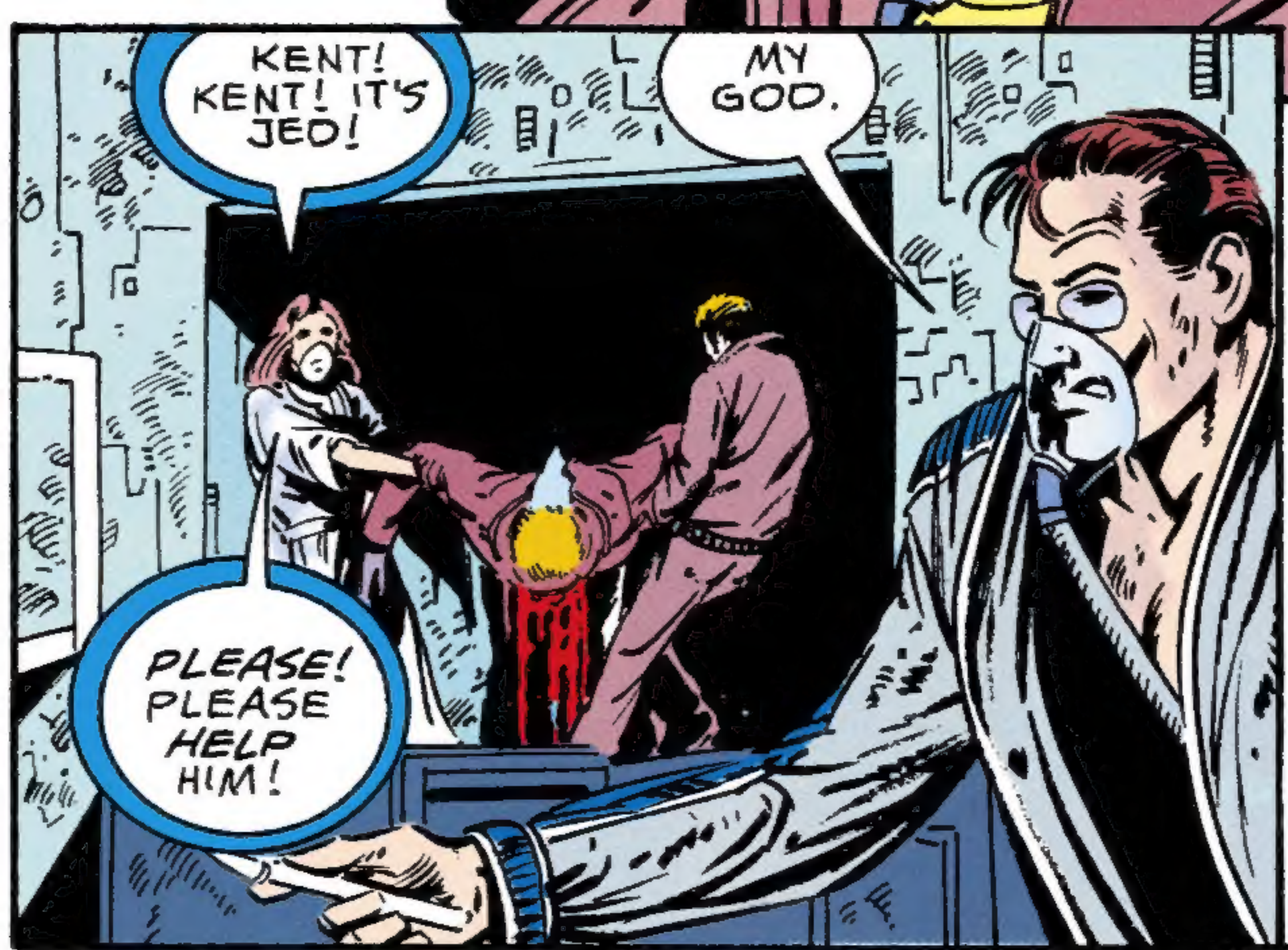


THOOM!



WHAT WAS THAT?

STAND BY FOR MORE WOUNDED!



KENT! KENT! IT'S JED!

MY GOD.

PLEASE! PLEASE HELP HIM!

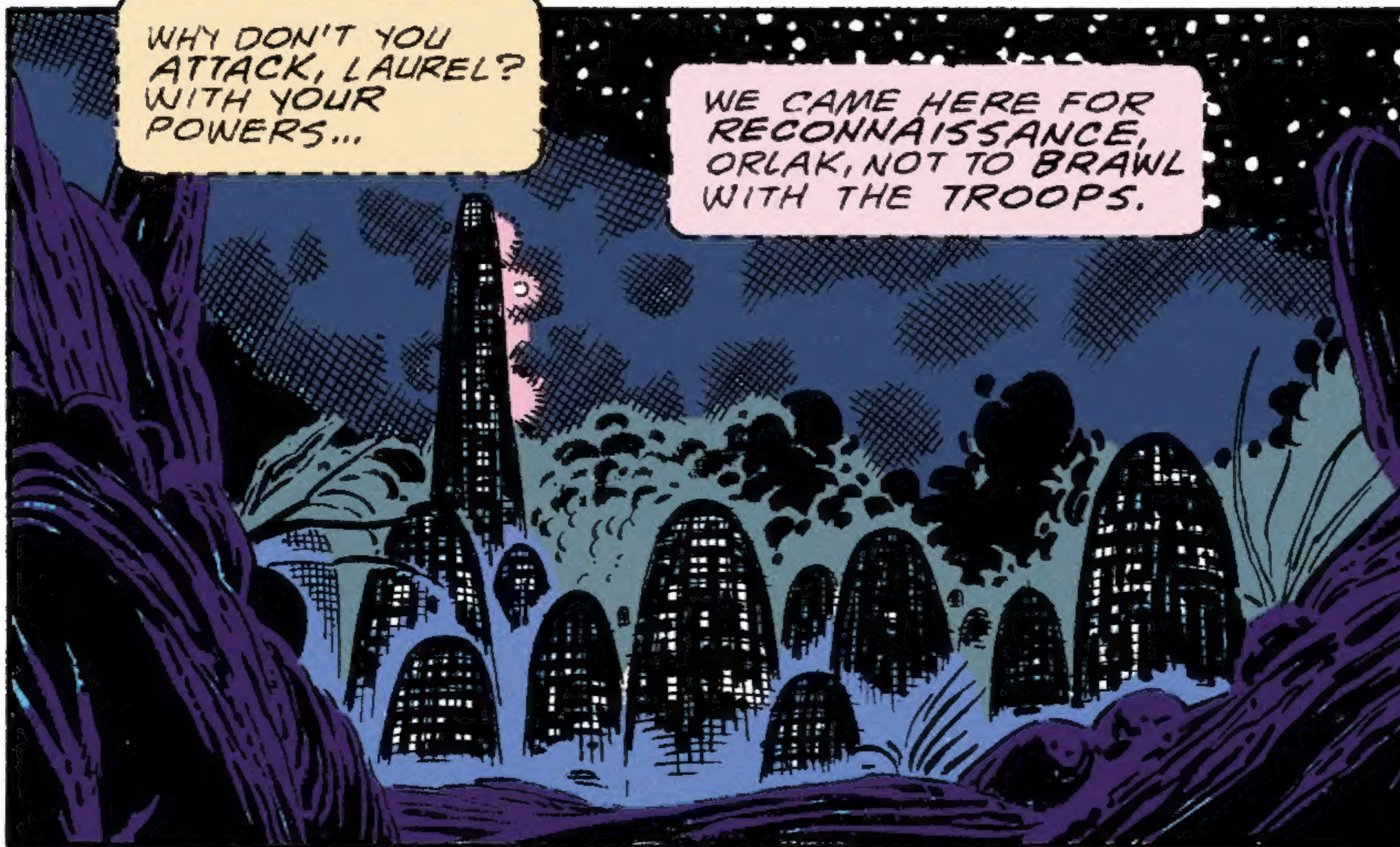


MYSA... HE ISN'T GOING TO...

OH, MYSA...

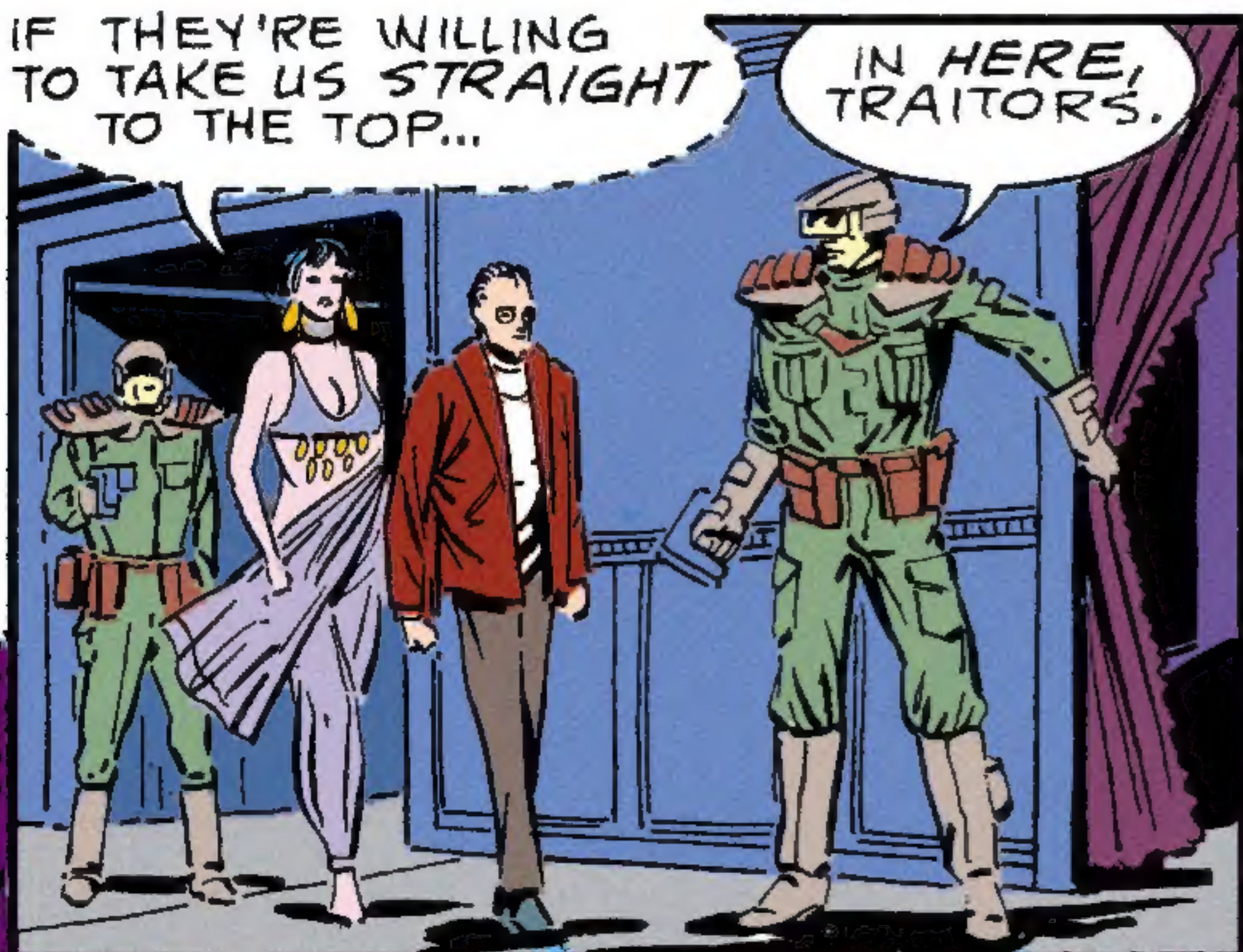


KHUNDIA, HOME-
WORLD OF THE
KHUNDISH
EMPIRE...



WHY DON'T YOU
ATTACK, LAUREL?
WITH YOUR
POWERS...

WE CAME HERE FOR
RECONNAISSANCE,
ORLAK, NOT TO BRAWL
WITH THE TROOPS.



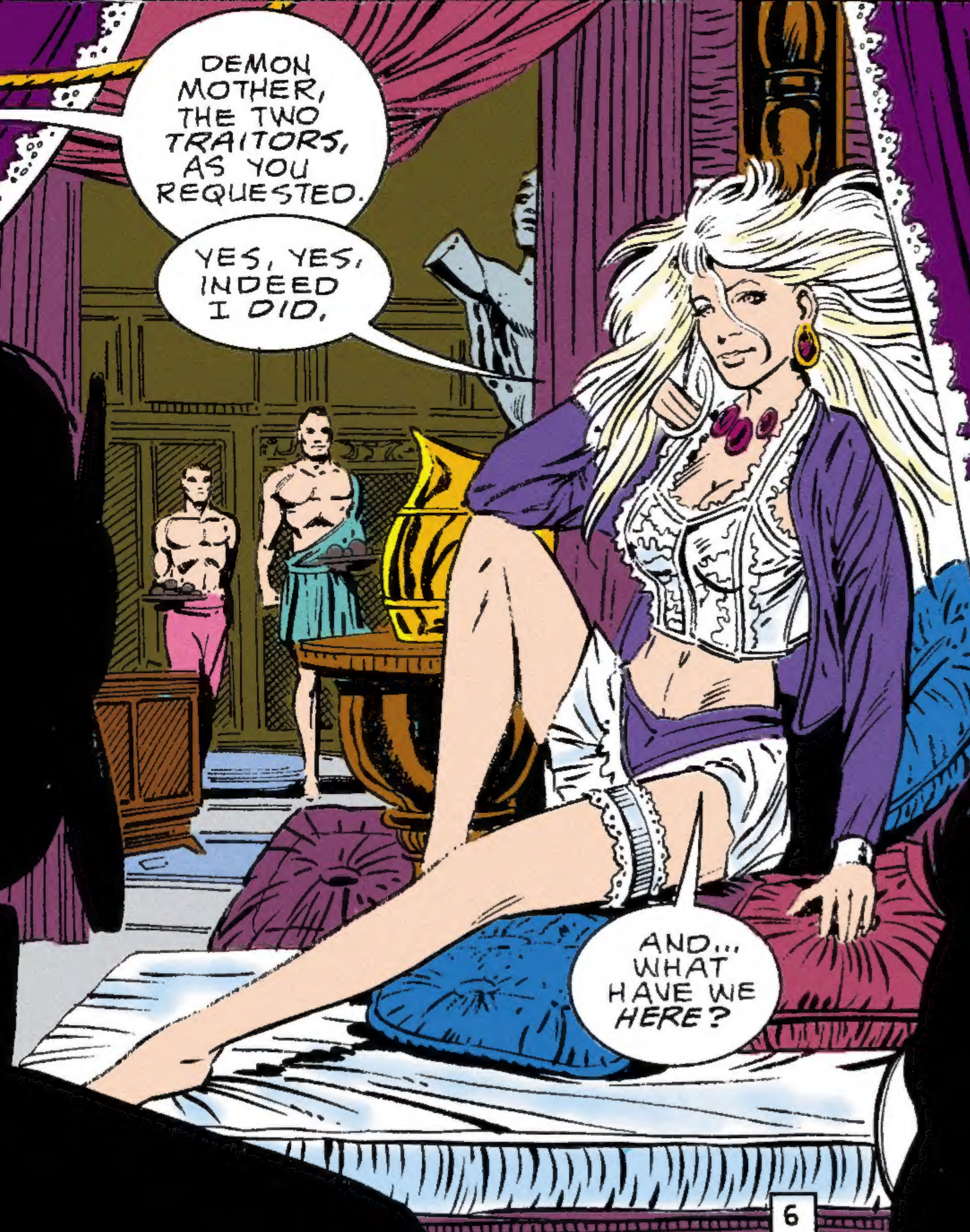
IF THEY'RE WILLING
TO TAKE US STRAIGHT
TO THE TOP...

IN HERE,
TRAITORS.



...THAT'S FINE WITH
ME. THAT IS OUR
MISSION, AFTER
ALL.

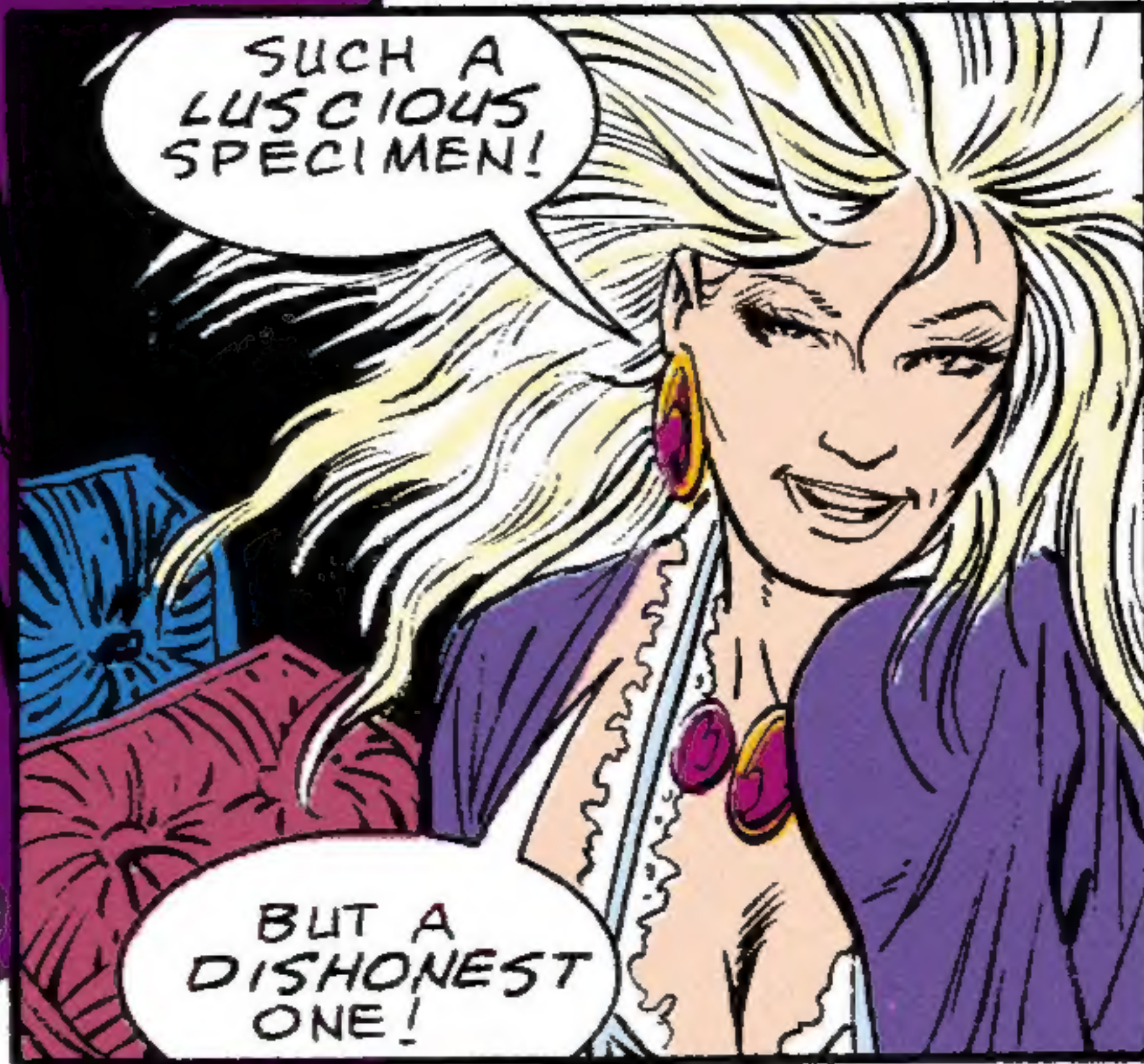
OUR
MISSION
IS ALSO TO
SURVIVE.



DEMON
MOTHER,
THE TWO
TRAITORS,
AS YOU
REQUESTED.

YES, YES,
INDEED
I DID,

AND...
WHAT
HAVE WE
HERE?



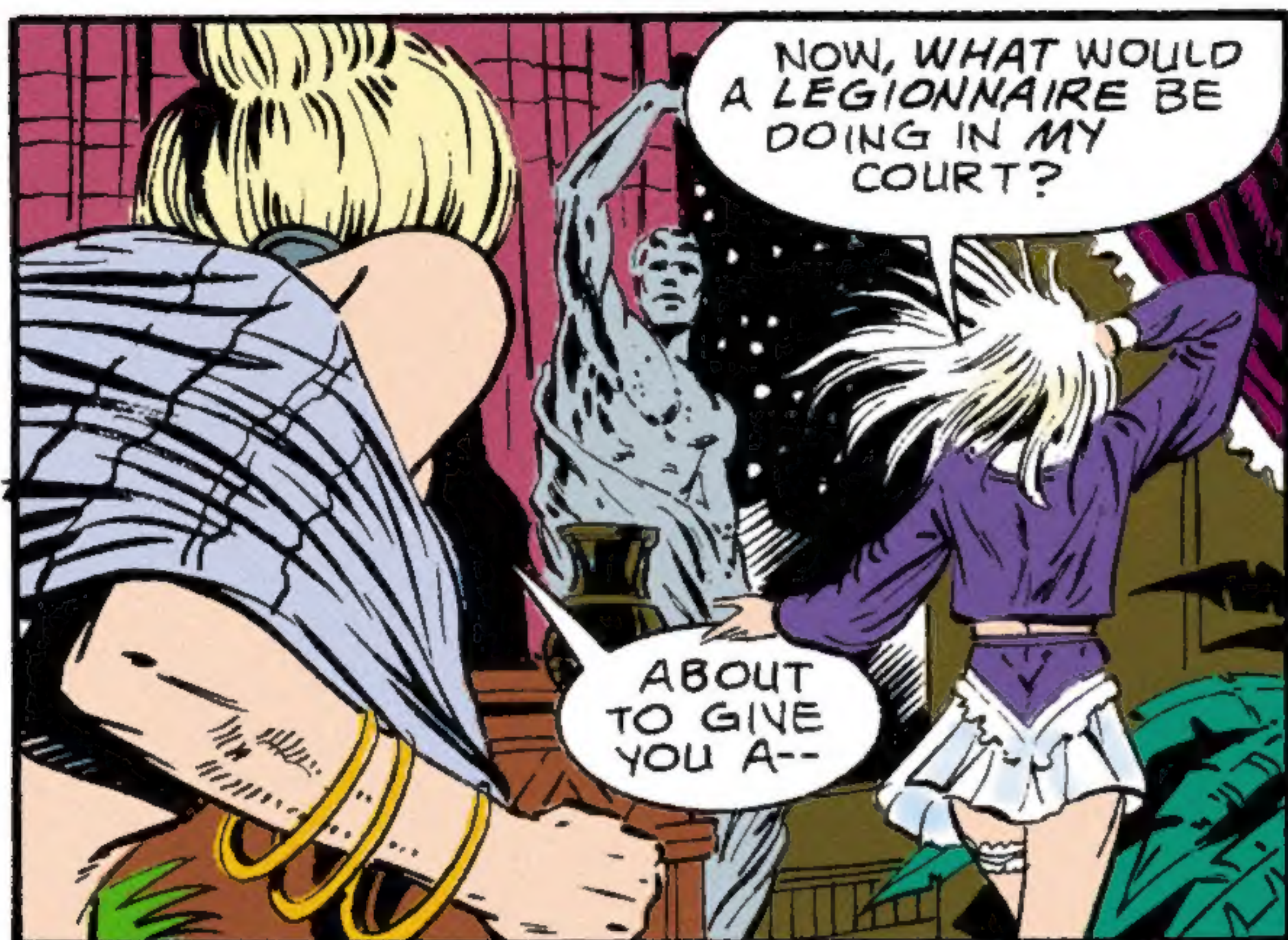
SUCH A
LUSCIOUS
SPECIMEN!

BUT A
DISHONEST
ONE!



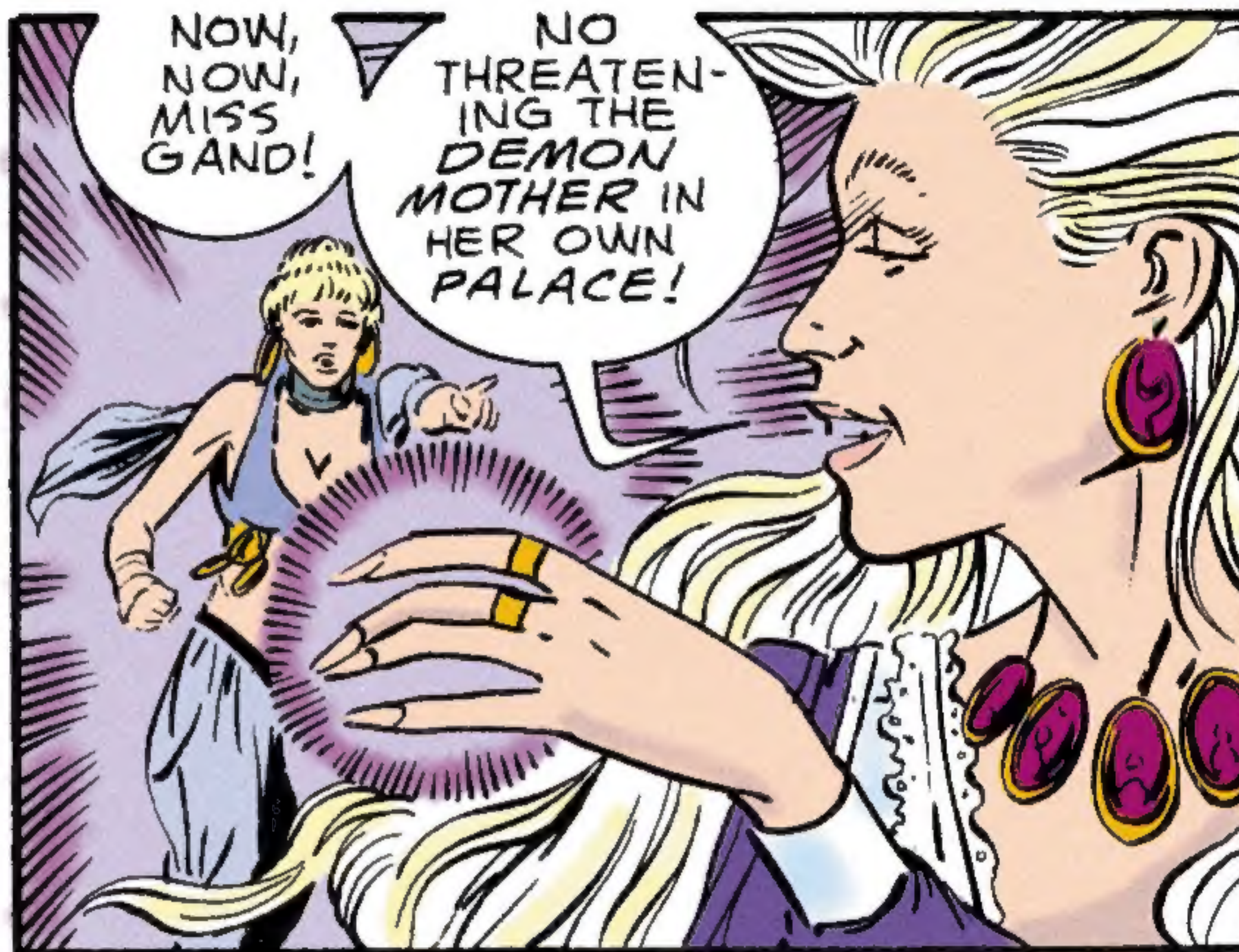
MAKING
USE OF A
DISTORTER...

WELL, WELL,
IF IT ISN'T
LAUREL
GAND.



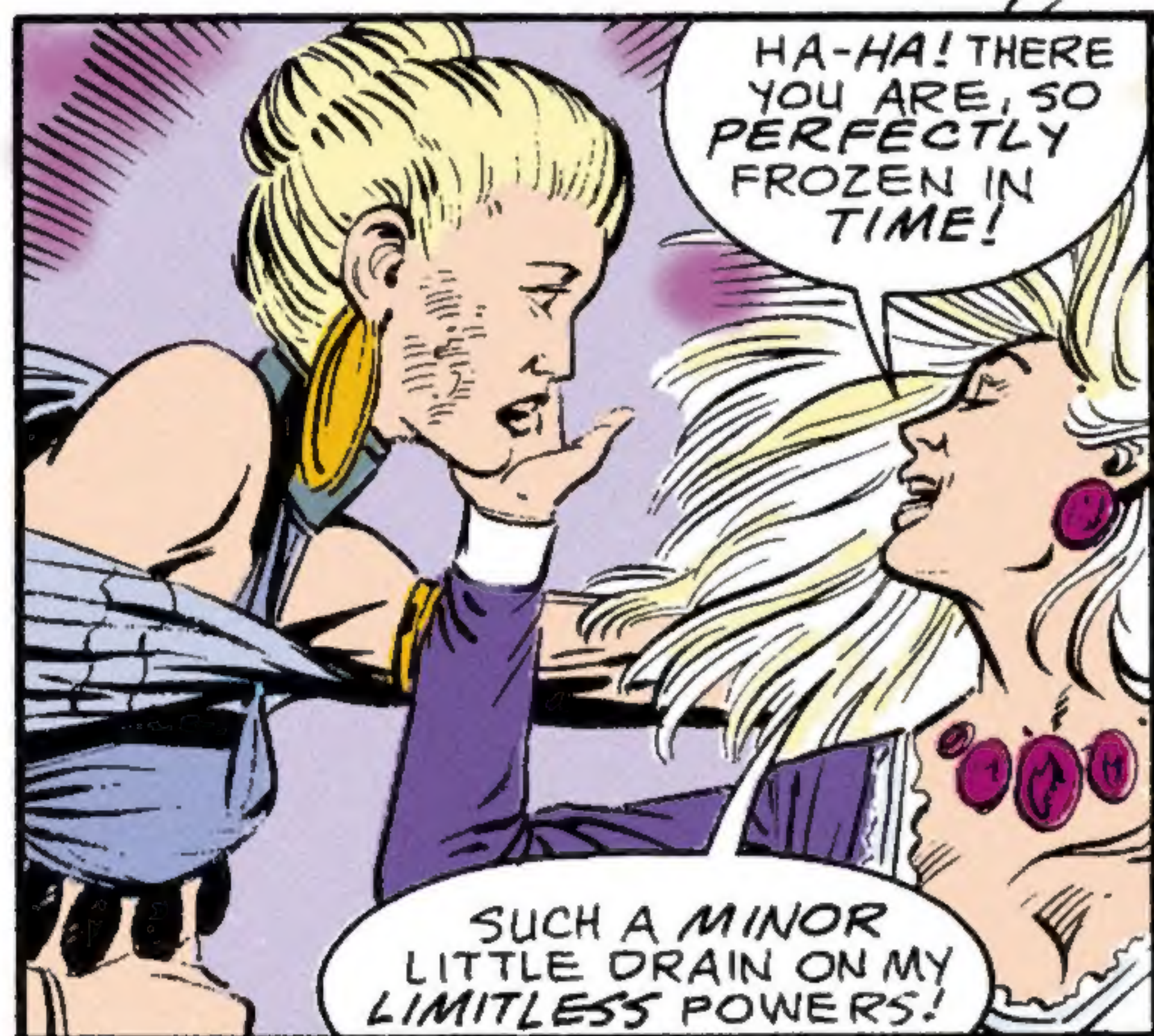
NOW, WHAT WOULD A LEGIONNAIRE BE DOING IN MY COURT?

ABOUT TO GIVE YOU A--



NOW, NOW, MISS GAND!

NO THREATENING THE DEMON MOTHER IN HER OWN PALACE!



HA-HA! THERE YOU ARE, SO PERFECTLY FROZEN IN TIME!

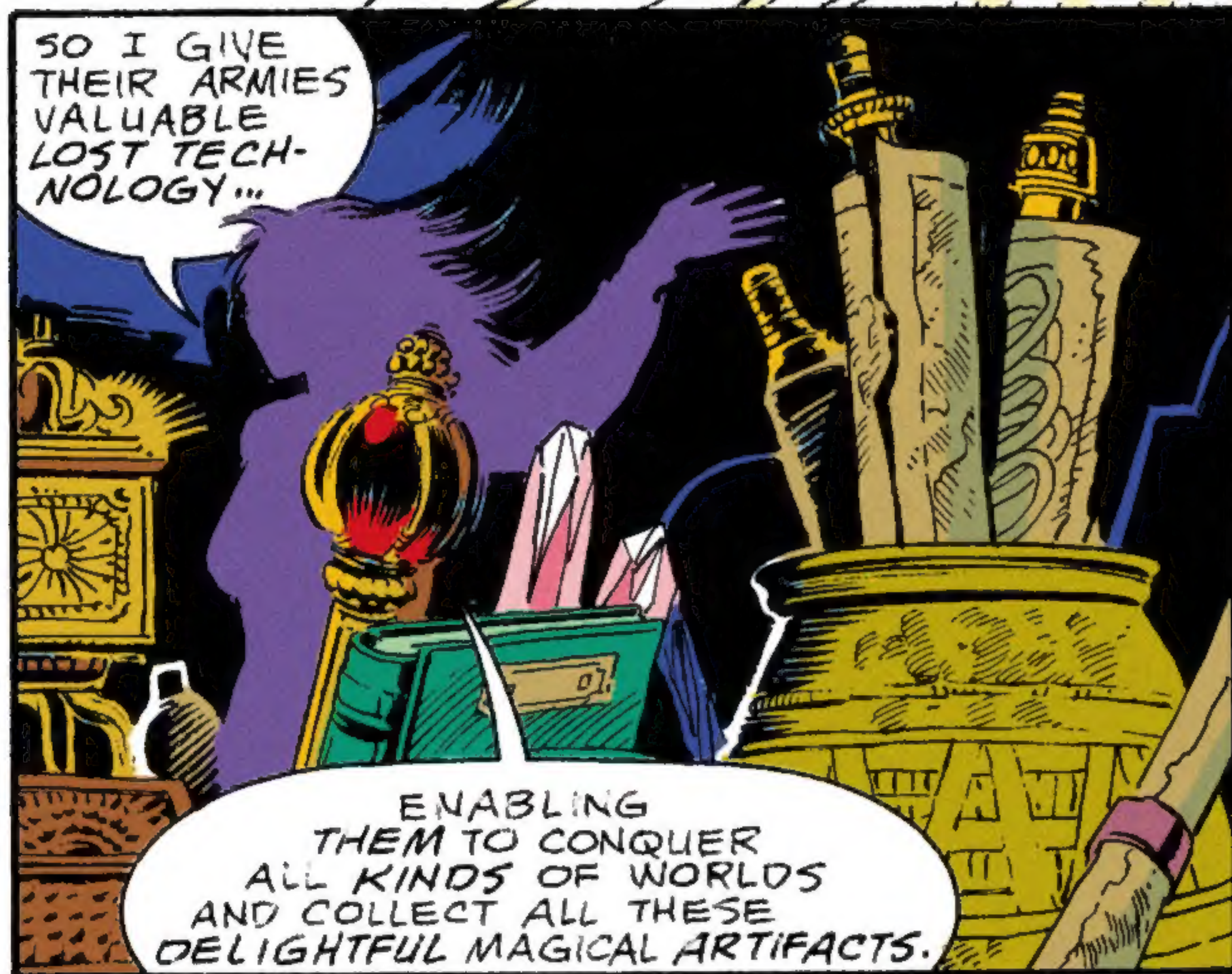
SUCH A MINOR LITTLE DRAIN ON MY LIMITLESS POWERS!



OH, YES, MY DELICIOUS POWERS...

FINALLY THE CHANCE TO GRAB EVERYTHING I DESIRE!

AND WHAT BETTER WAY TO GET IT THAN TO CONVINCE THESE NEANDERTHALS I'M THEIR WICKED DEMON MOTHER!

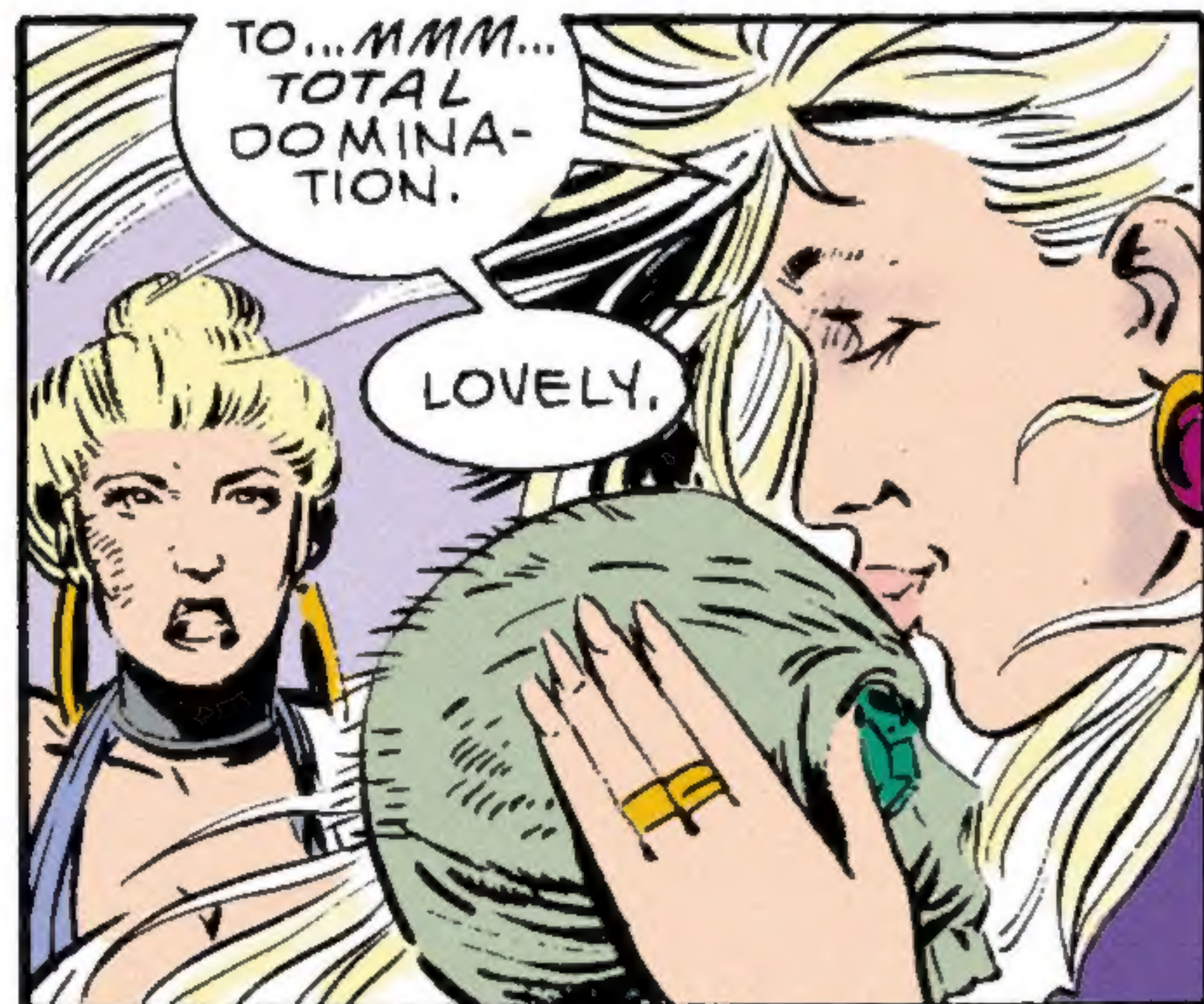


SO I GIVE THEIR ARMIES VALUABLE LOST TECHNOLOGY...

ENABLING THEM TO CONQUER ALL KINDS OF WORLDS AND COLLECT ALL THESE DELIGHTFUL MAGICAL ARTIFACTS.



EACH ONE INCREASING MY POWERS... PUTTING ME ONE STEP CLOSER...

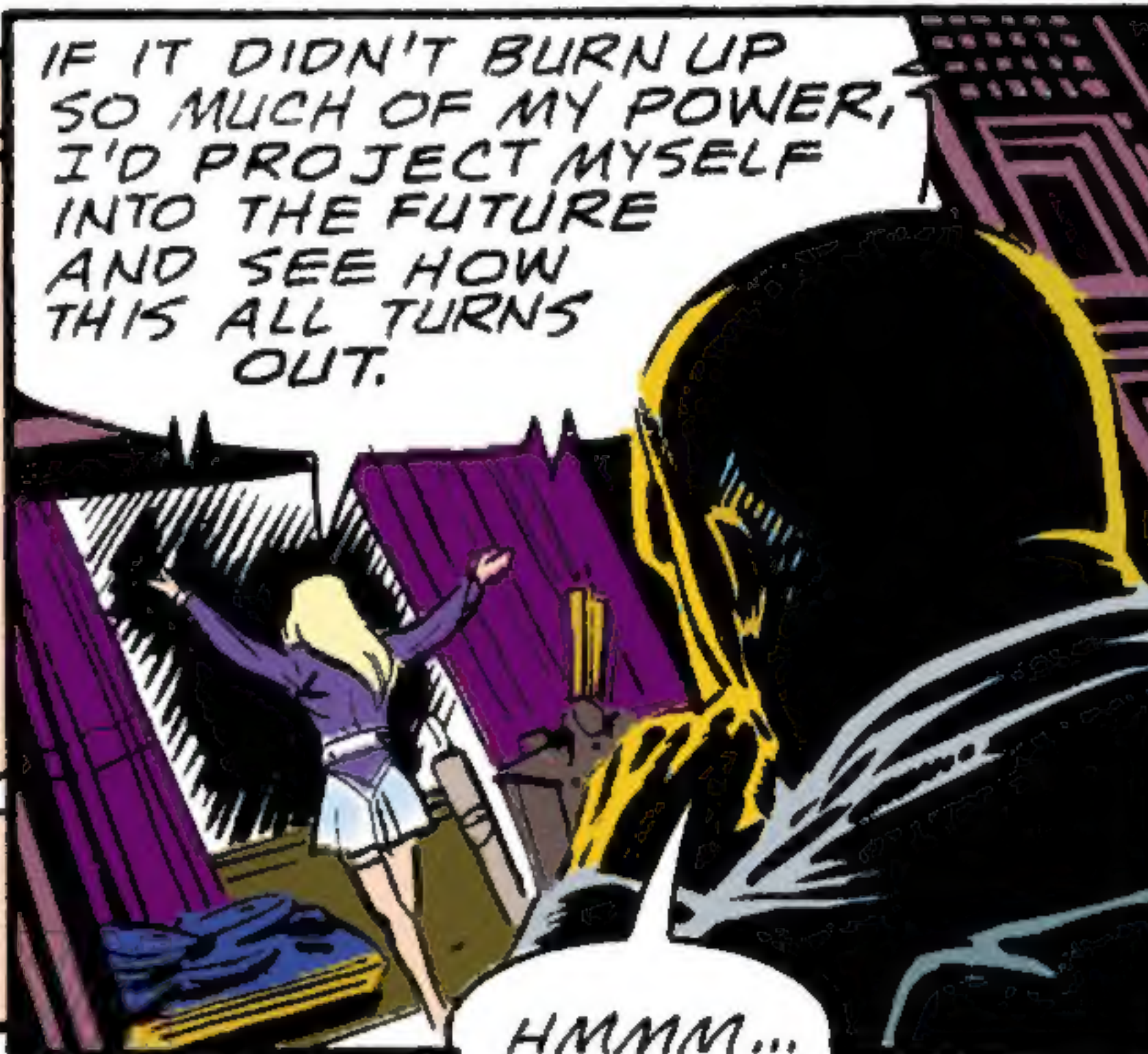


TO... MMM... TOTAL DOMINATION.

LOVELY.



I CAN HARDLY WAIT FOR THOSE CLUMSY ARMIES TO DO THEIR WORK.



IF IT DIDN'T BURN UP SO MUCH OF MY POWER, I'D PROJECT MYSELF INTO THE FUTURE AND SEE HOW THIS ALL TURNS OUT.

HMMM...

IN ORBIT ABOVE
TALOK VIII...



MAINTAIN
FORMATION!
MAINTAIN
FORMATION!

STARHIVE
GLORY-III! YOU'RE
OFF-COURSE!

GLORY-III,
PULL BACK!
PULL BACK!

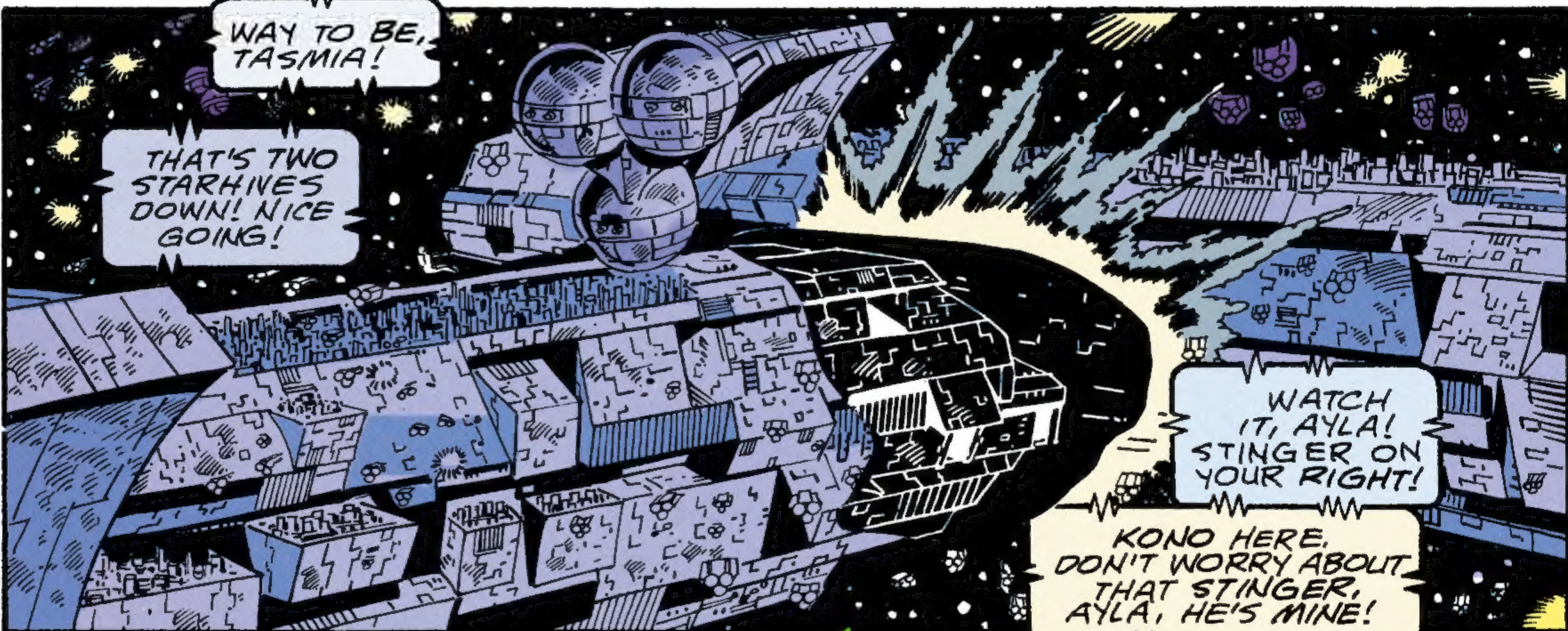


WE'RE
BLACKED
OUT! WE'RE
FLYING
BLIND!

CURSE IT,
GLORY-III!
PULL BACK!

WAY TO BE,
TASMIA!

THAT'S TWO
STARHIVES
DOWN! NICE
GOING!



WATCH
IT, AYLA!
STINGER ON
YOUR RIGHT!

KONO HERE.
DON'T WORRY ABOUT
THAT STINGER,
AYLA, HE'S MINE!

HEY, POINTY-EARS!
BETCHA CAN'T
HIT ME!



WE'VE
BEEN
BOARDED!

KILL
HER!

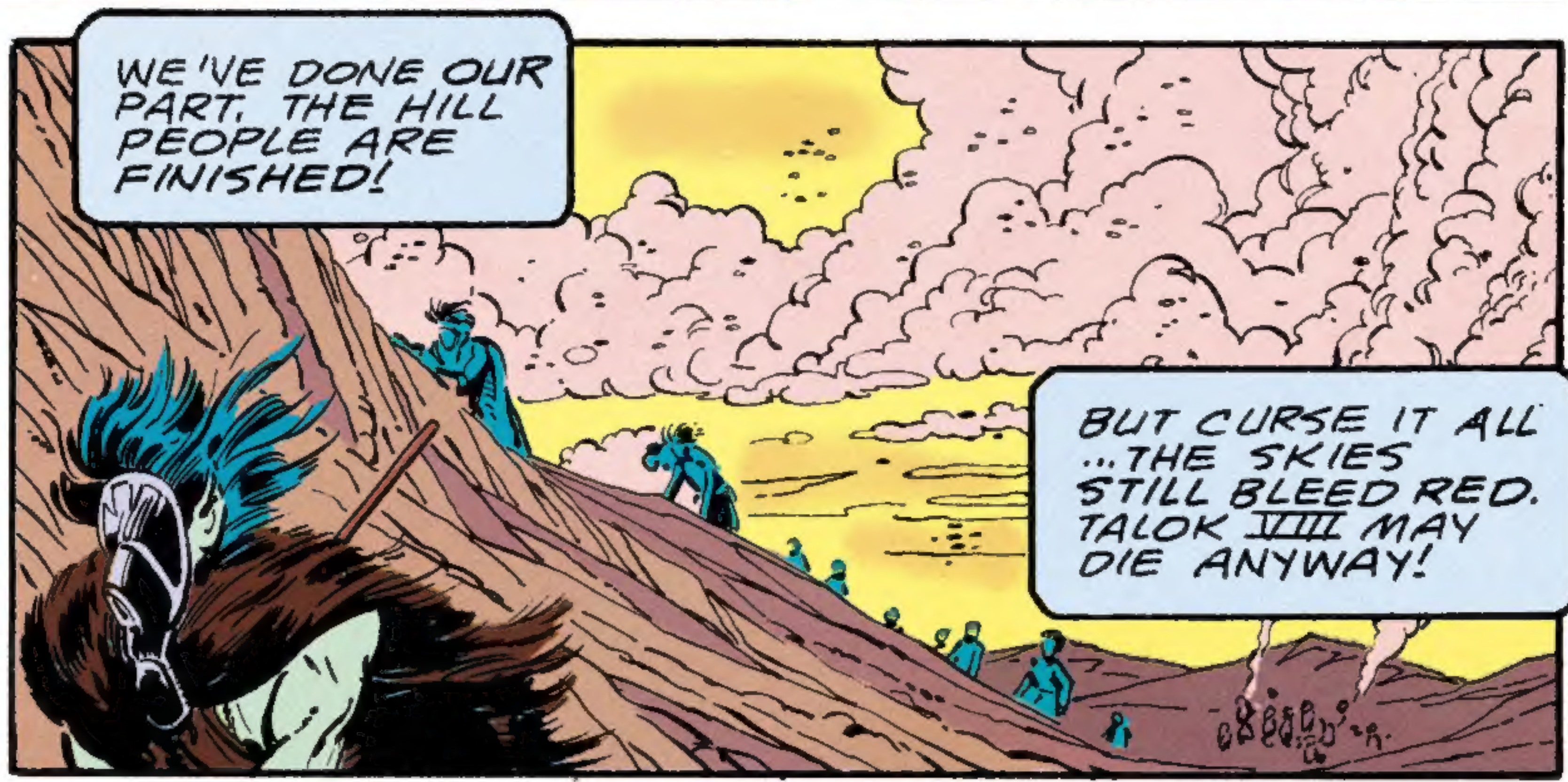
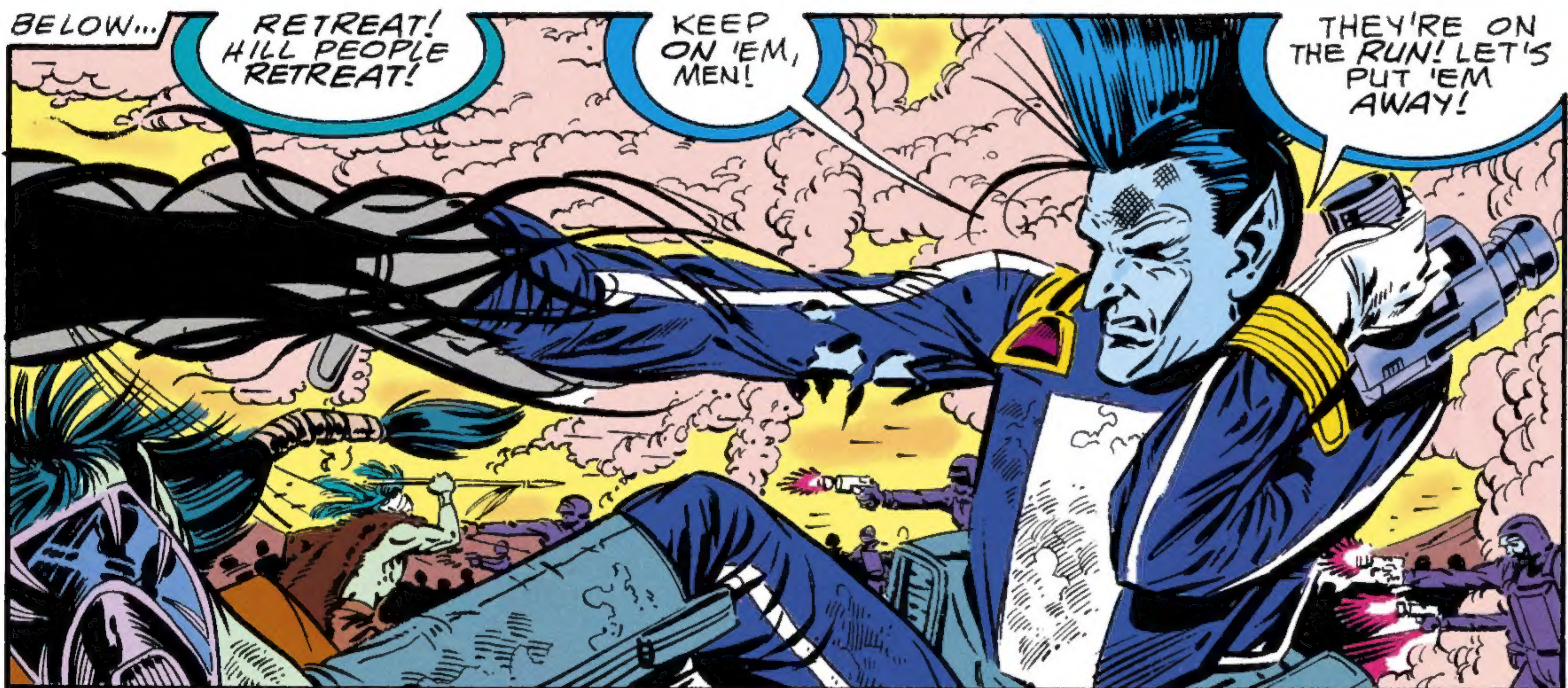
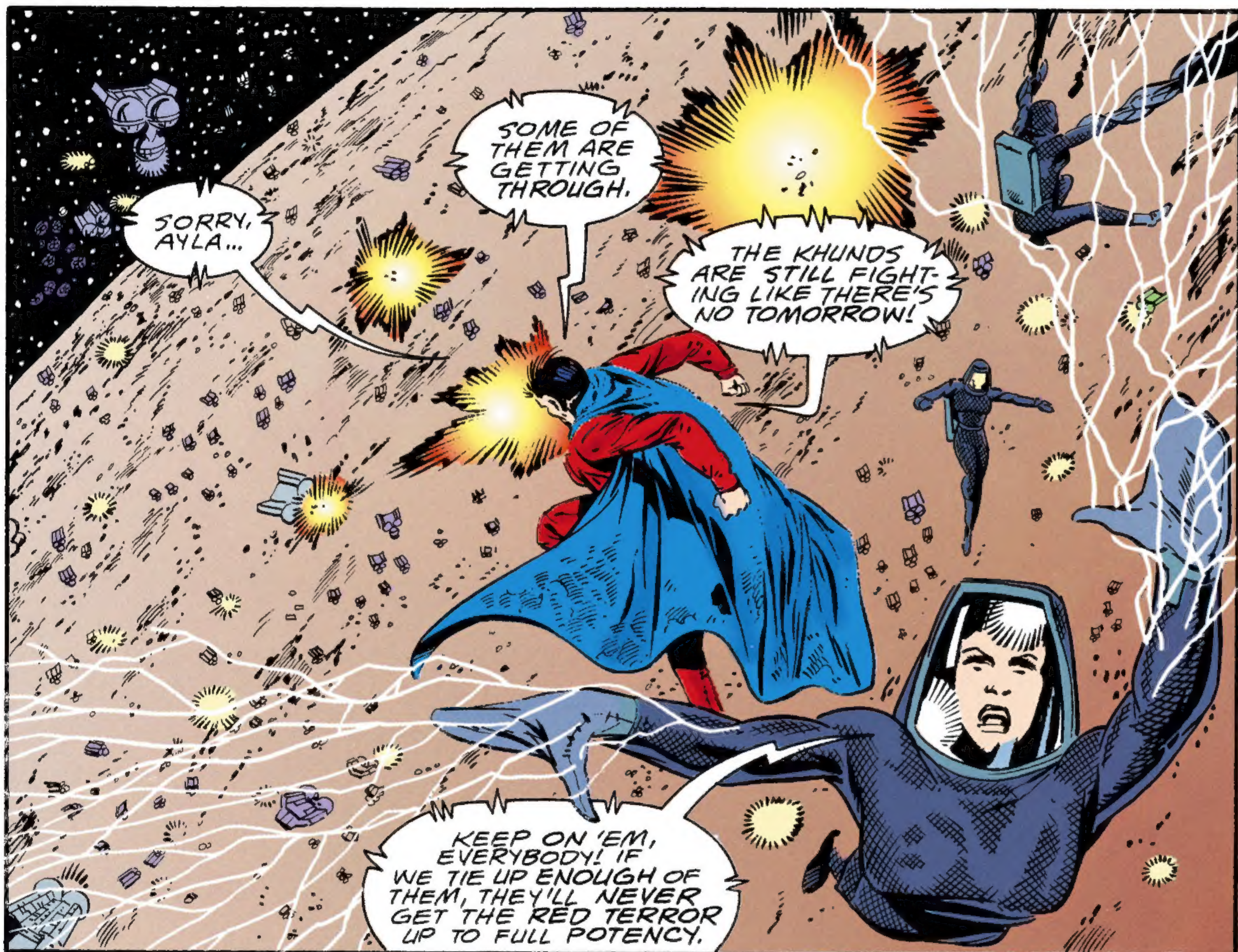


WHOOPS! LOOK
WHAT YOU'VE DONE
TO YOUR ENGINES!

DID I FORGET
TO TELL THEM
HOW IMMATERIAL
I CAN GET?



OH,
SILLY
ME!



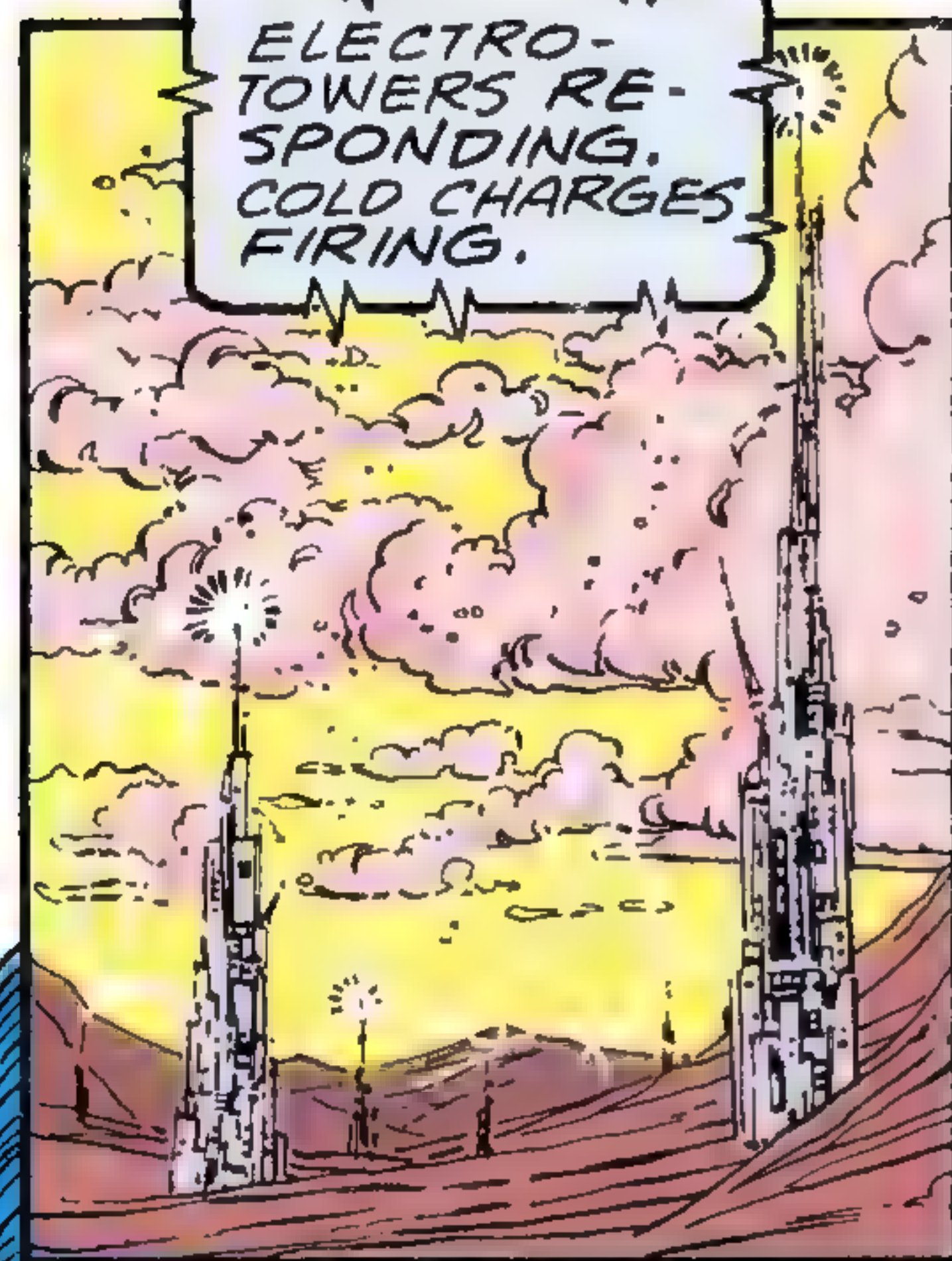
OKAY, GENTLEMEN,
LET'S SEE IF WE'VE
SPENT THOSE SLEEP-
LESS NIGHTS
PROFITABLY.



FIRING
COLD
CHARGES.



ELECTRO-
TOWERS RE-
SPONDING.
COLD CHARGES
FIRING.

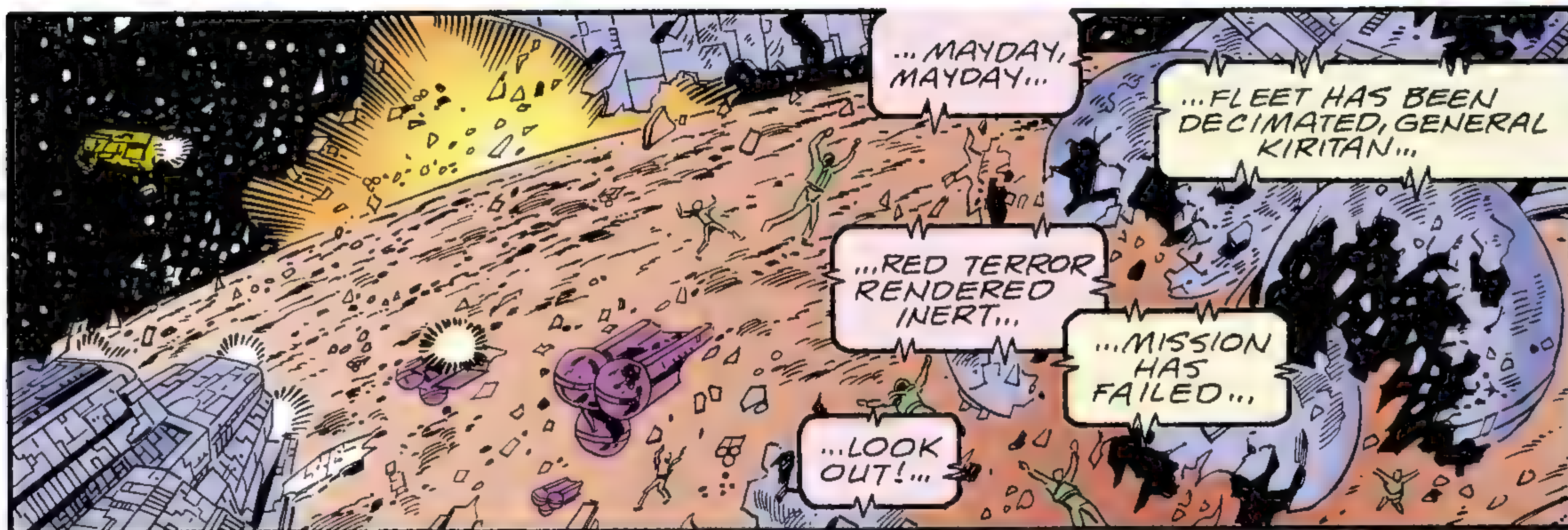


THE MISTS ARE DE-
ACTIVATING. THEY
HAVE BEEN
RENDERED INERT.

HAIL!

...THANK THE
ANCESTORS...

VICTORY!



...MAYDAY,
MAYDAY...

...FLEET HAS BEEN
DECIMATED, GENERAL
KIRITAN...

...RED TERROR
RENDERED
INERT...

...MISSION
HAS
FAILED...

...LOOK
OUT!...

...COMMAND
STARHIVE IS
SURROUNDED...

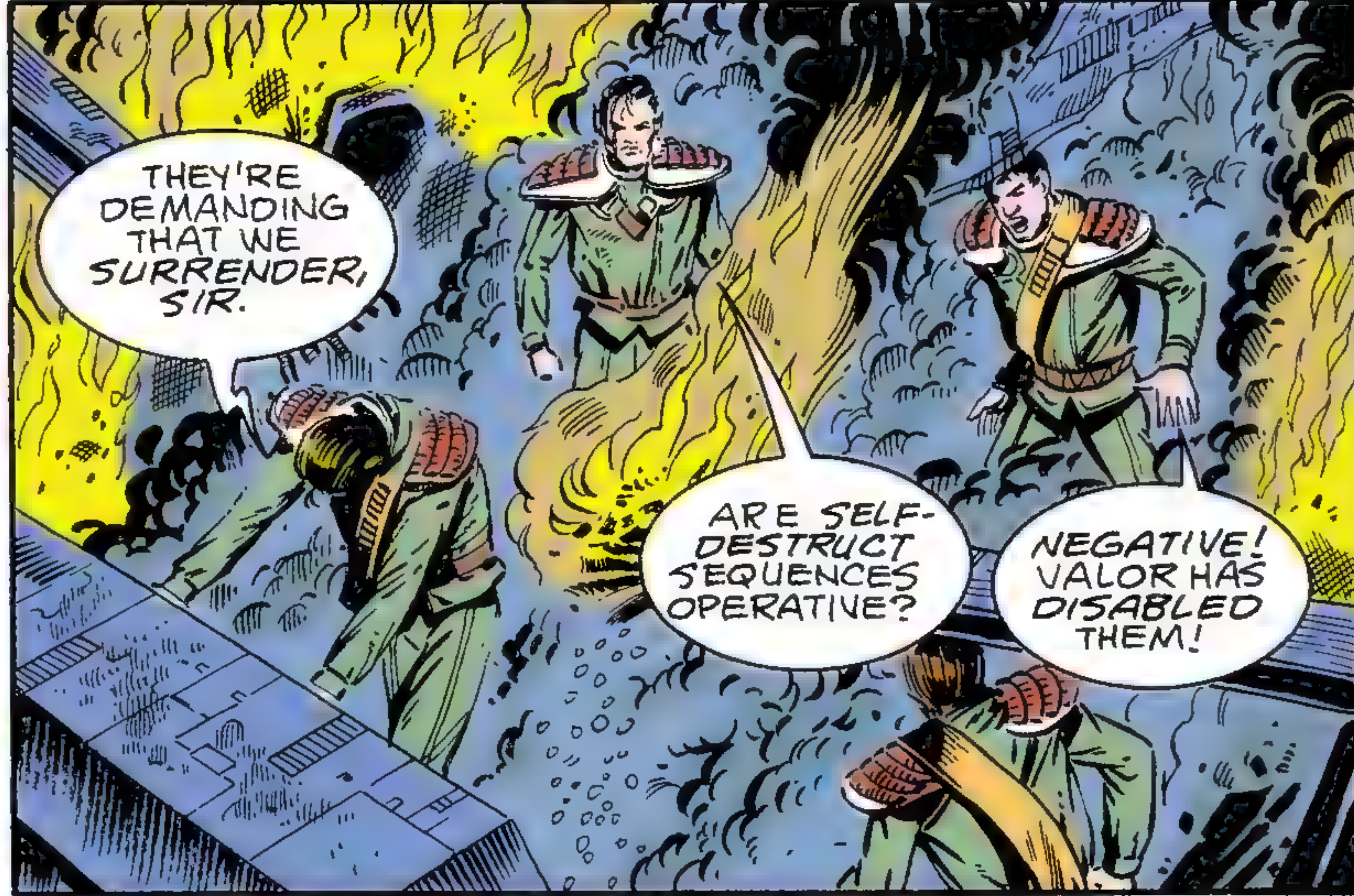


...ALL ARMORING
HAS BUCKLED...

THEY'RE
DEMANDING
THAT WE
SURRENDER,
SIR.

ARE SELF-
DESTRUCT
SEQUENCES
OPERATIVE?

NEGATIVE!
VALOR HAS
DISABLED
THEM!





THEN...

DO YOU WISH TO
SURRENDER?



NO!

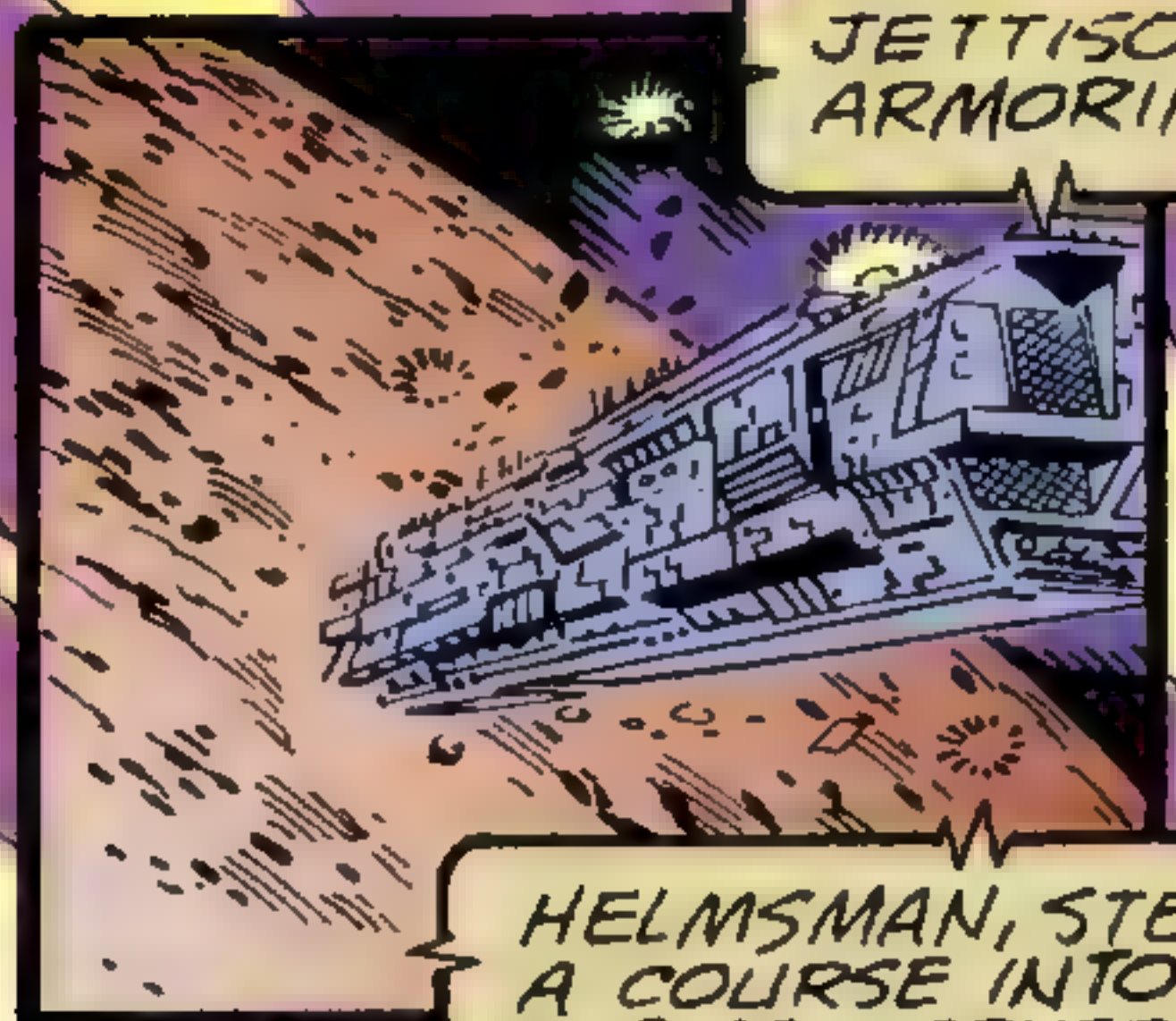
NEVER!

THERE
MUST BE AN
ALTERNATIVE!



VERY
WELL.

WE
DIE LIKE
KHUNDS.



JETTISON ALL
ARMORING...

HELMSMAN, STEER
A COURSE INTO
THE ATMOSPHERE.

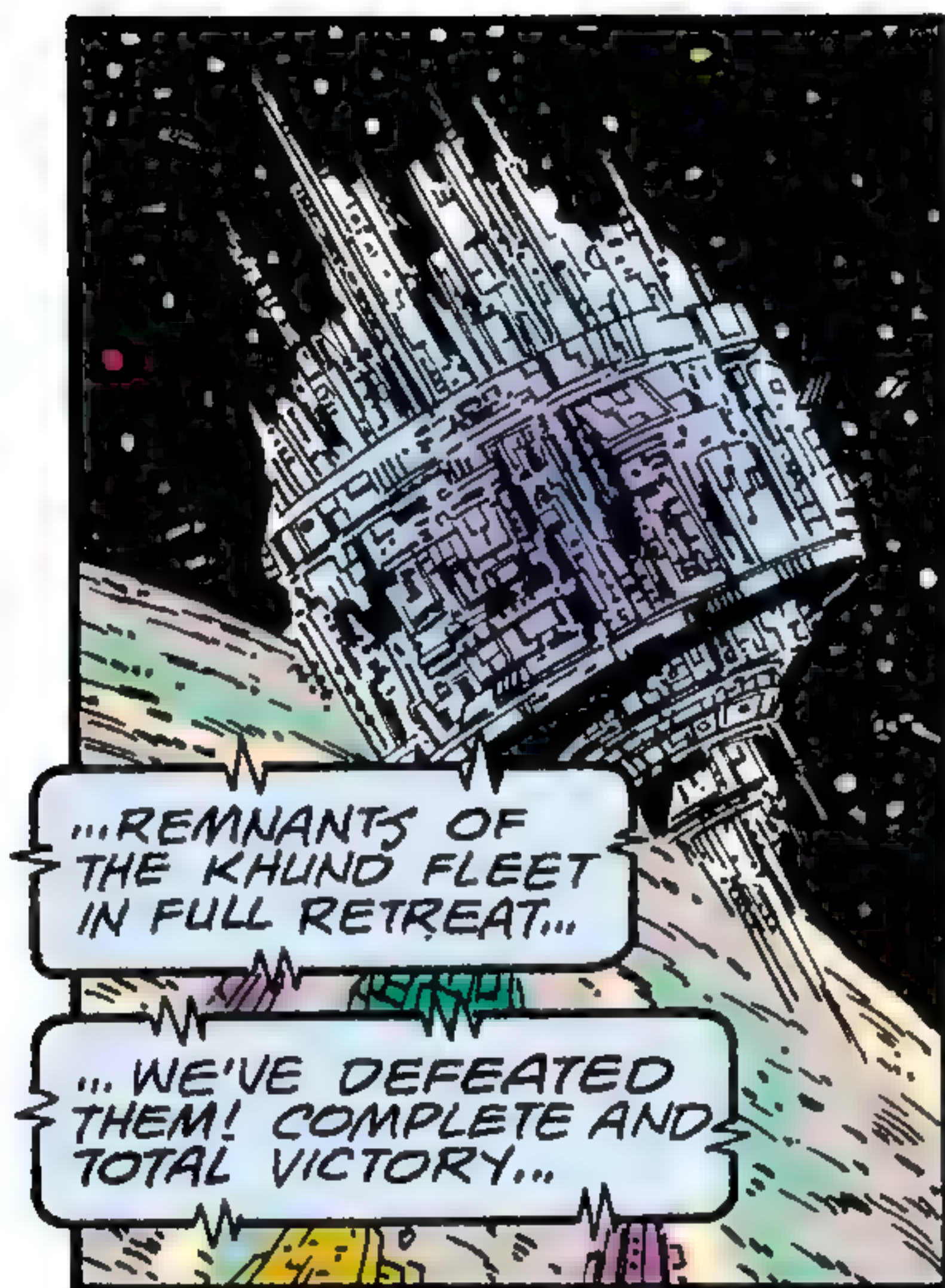


WE HAVE PROVEN OURSELVES
TO THE DEMON-MOTHER,
MY FRIENDS...

NOW
IT IS
TIME...

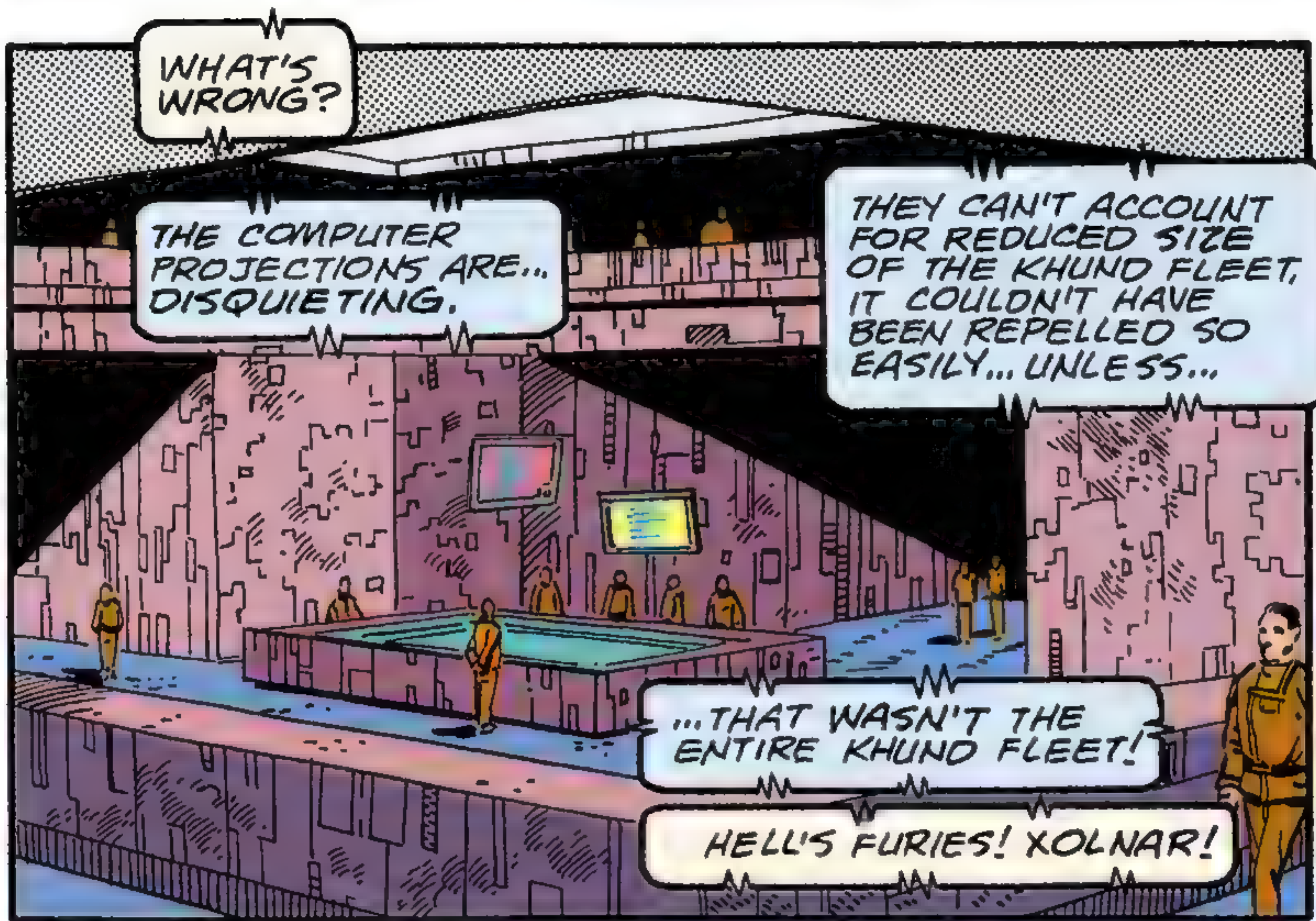
...FOR HER TO
ACCEPT US...

...INTO HER
COURTS...



...REMNANTS OF THE KHUND FLEET IN FULL RETREAT...

...WE'VE DEFEATED THEM! COMPLETE AND TOTAL VICTORY...



WHAT'S WRONG?

THE COMPUTER PROJECTIONS ARE... DISQUIETING.

THEY CAN'T ACCOUNT FOR REDUCED SIZE OF THE KHUND FLEET, IT COULDN'T HAVE BEEN REPELLED SO EASILY... UNLESS...

...THAT WASN'T THE ENTIRE KHUND FLEET!

HELL'S FURIES! XOLNAR!



HAVE WE HEARD ANYTHING FROM XOLNAR YET?

NO, SIR, STORMS THERE HAVE YET TO CLEAR.

NOTHING? NOTHING AT ALL?



NOTHING, SIR. XOLNAR IS SILENT.

XOLNAR HAS TO BE SAFE. HAS TO BE...

ORLAK CONFIRMED THAT WITH HIS BEST KHUNDISH SOURCES. AND ORLAK...



BLOODY NASS! THE KHUNDS WERE ON TO ORLAK!

THEY FED HIM FALSE INFORMATION!



OUR INTELLIGENCE WAS ERRONEOUS! XOLNAR WAS THE TARGET ALL ALONG!

THEN THE ATTACK ON TALOK... A CAREFULLY ORCHESTRATED DECOY.

HELL! THEN XOLNAR IS DEAD! THERE'S NO WAY POSSIBLE WE COULD GET THERE IN TIME!

WELL... NOT WITH THIRTIETH-CENTURY TECHNOLOGY, THAT IS TRUE...

THERE MAY BE AN ALTERNATIVE...



XOLNAR...



CHUCK!

LEAVE ME ALONE! I H AFTA...

THERE'S A BETTER WAY!

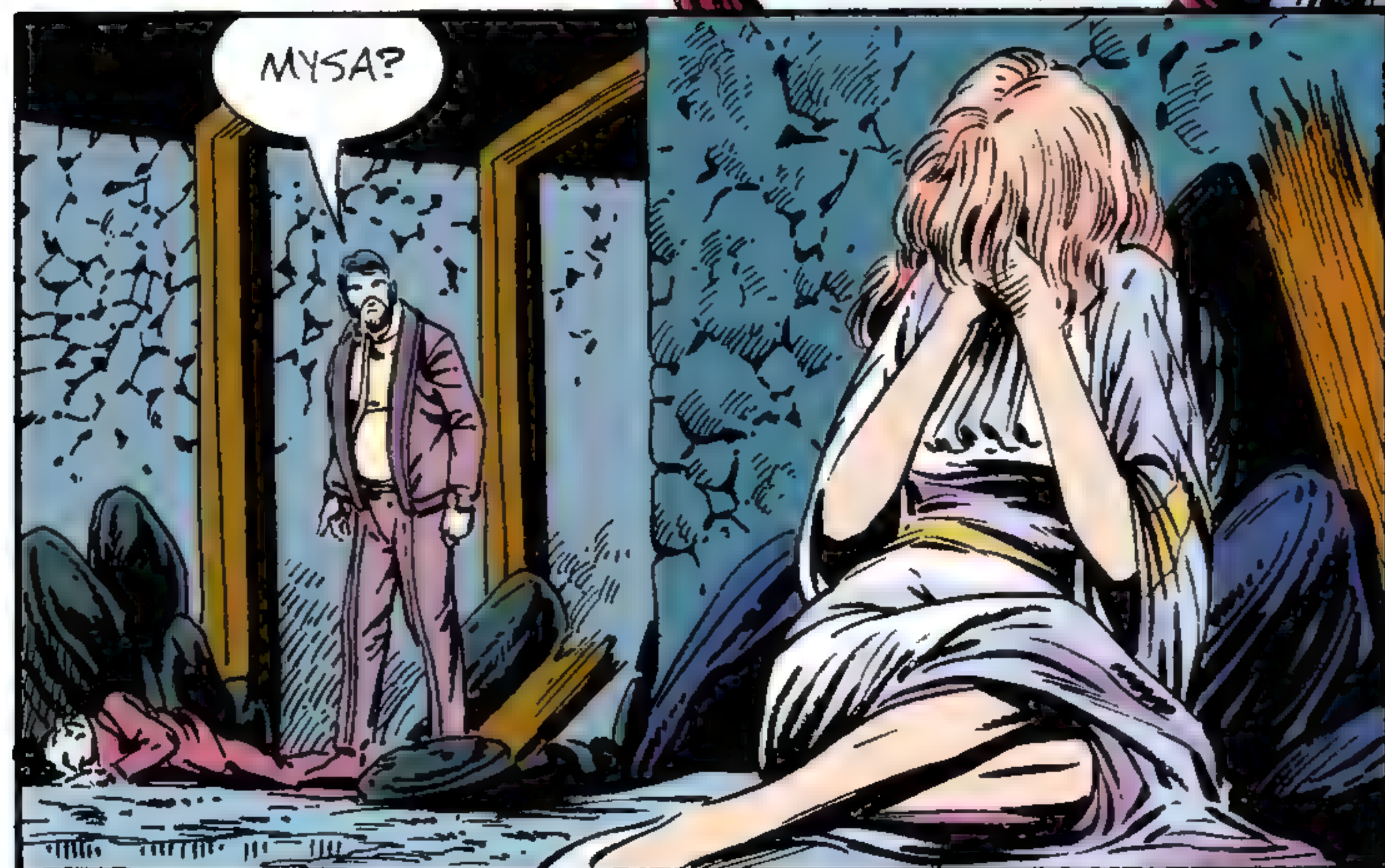


AN EXTRA GUN WON'T MAKE A DIFFERENCE. YOU'VE GOT TO DO WHAT YOU DO BEST...

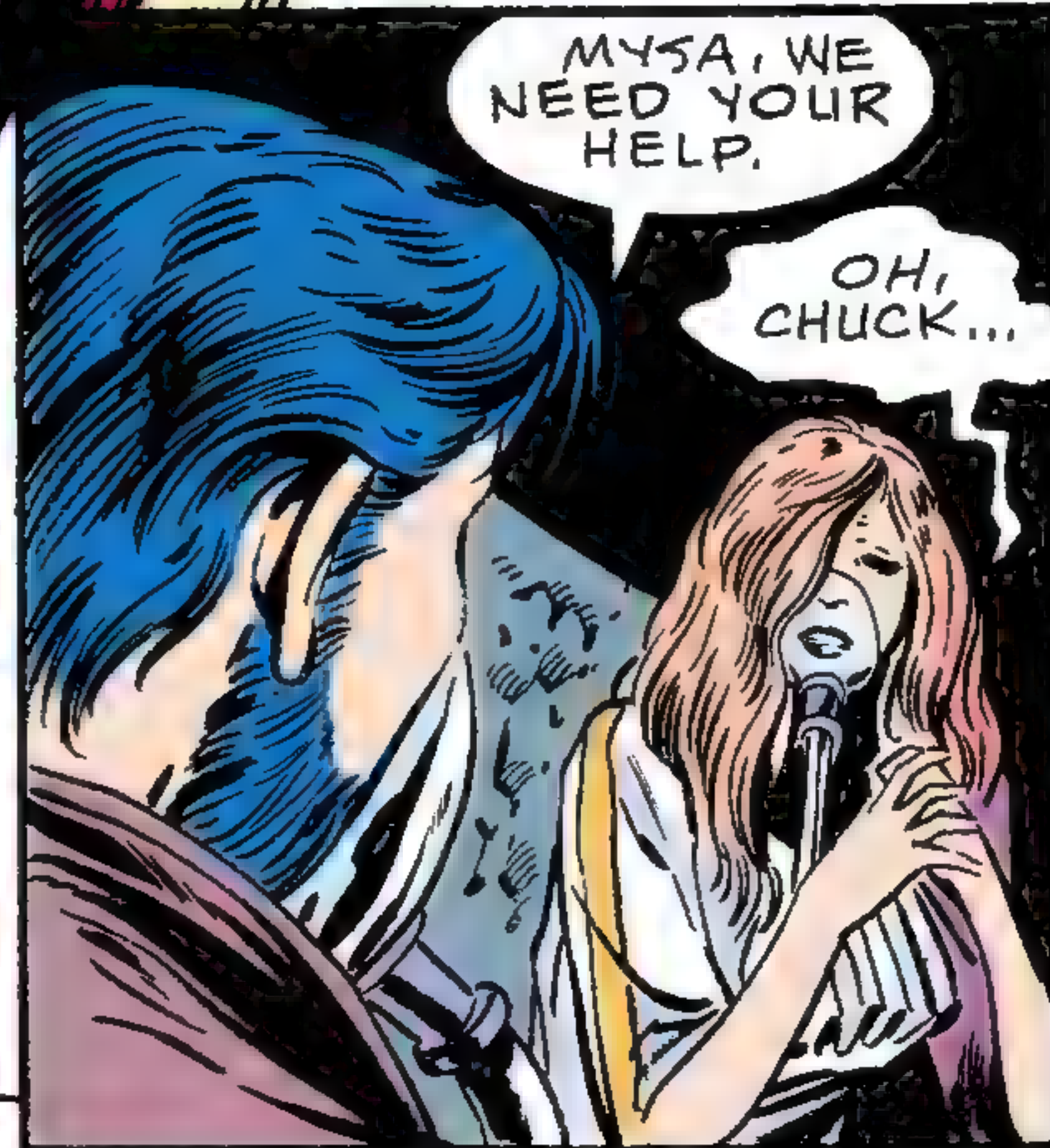
TEND TO THE MORALE OF THE TEAM. ESPECIALLY THE ONE WHO CAN SAVE US ALL.



OKAY, RIGHT.



MYSA?

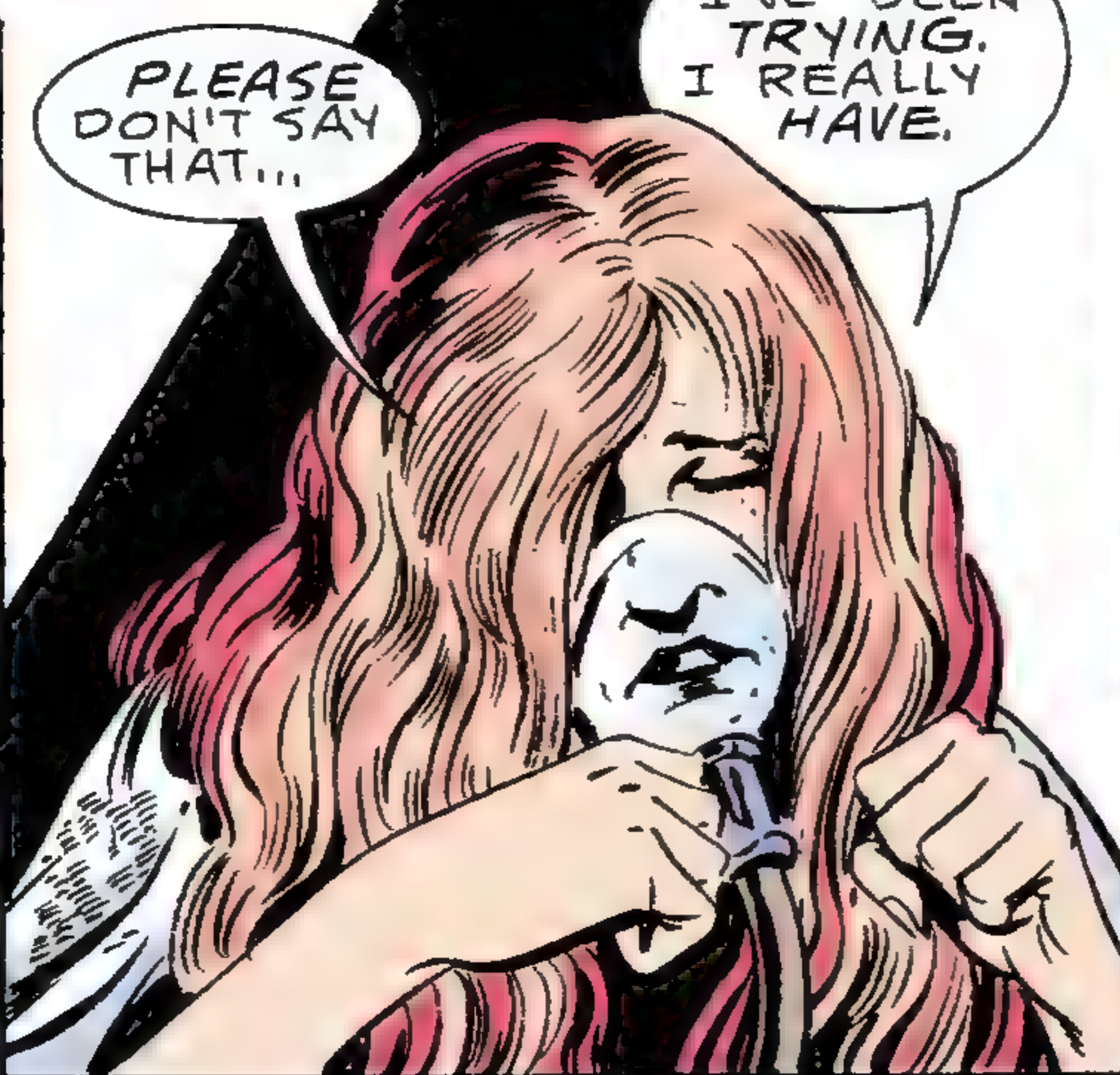


MYSA, WE NEED YOUR HELP.

OH, CHUCK...



WE'RE NOT GOING TO MAKE IT WITHOUT YOU.



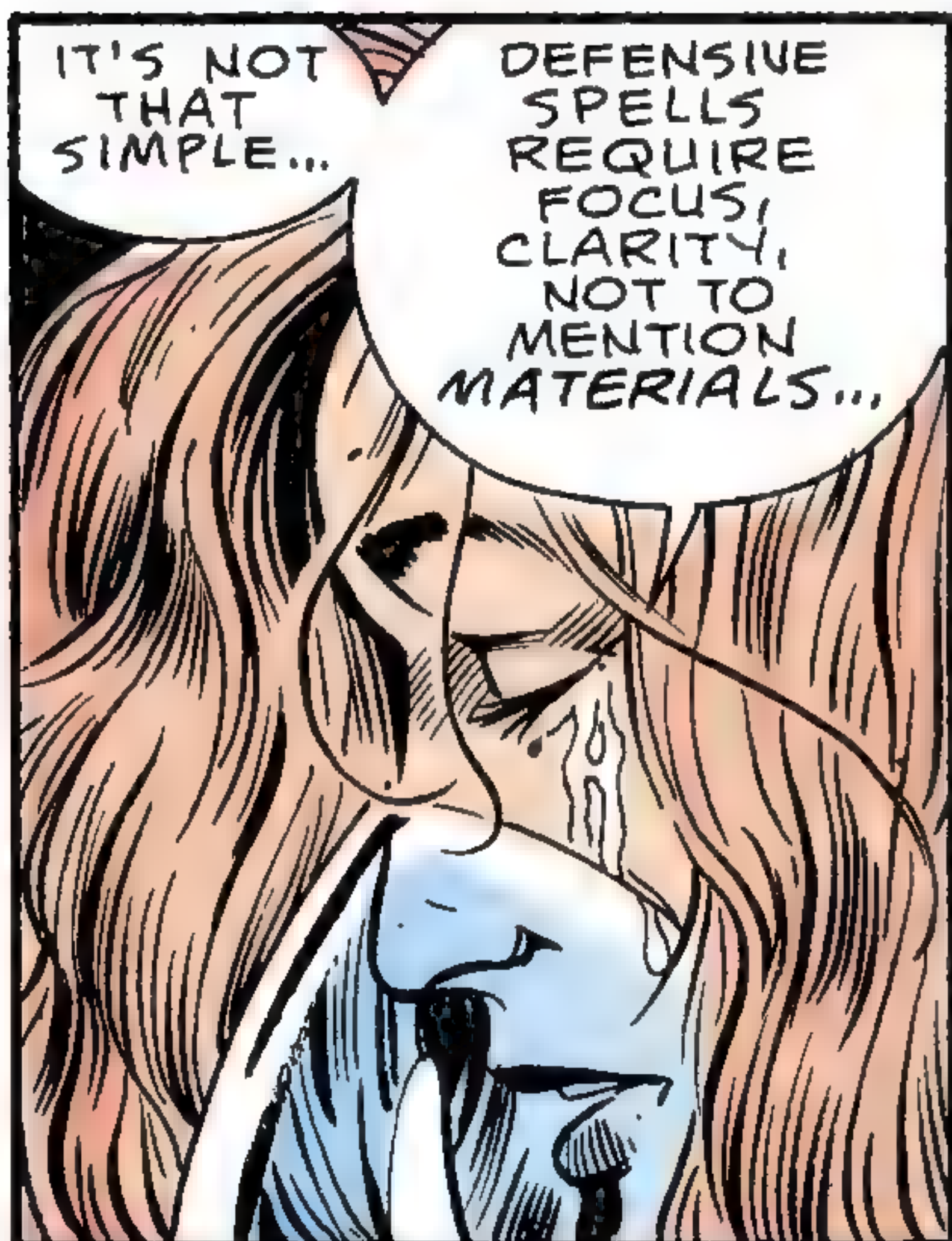
PLEASE DON'T SAY THAT...

I'VE BEEN TRYING. I REALLY HAVE.



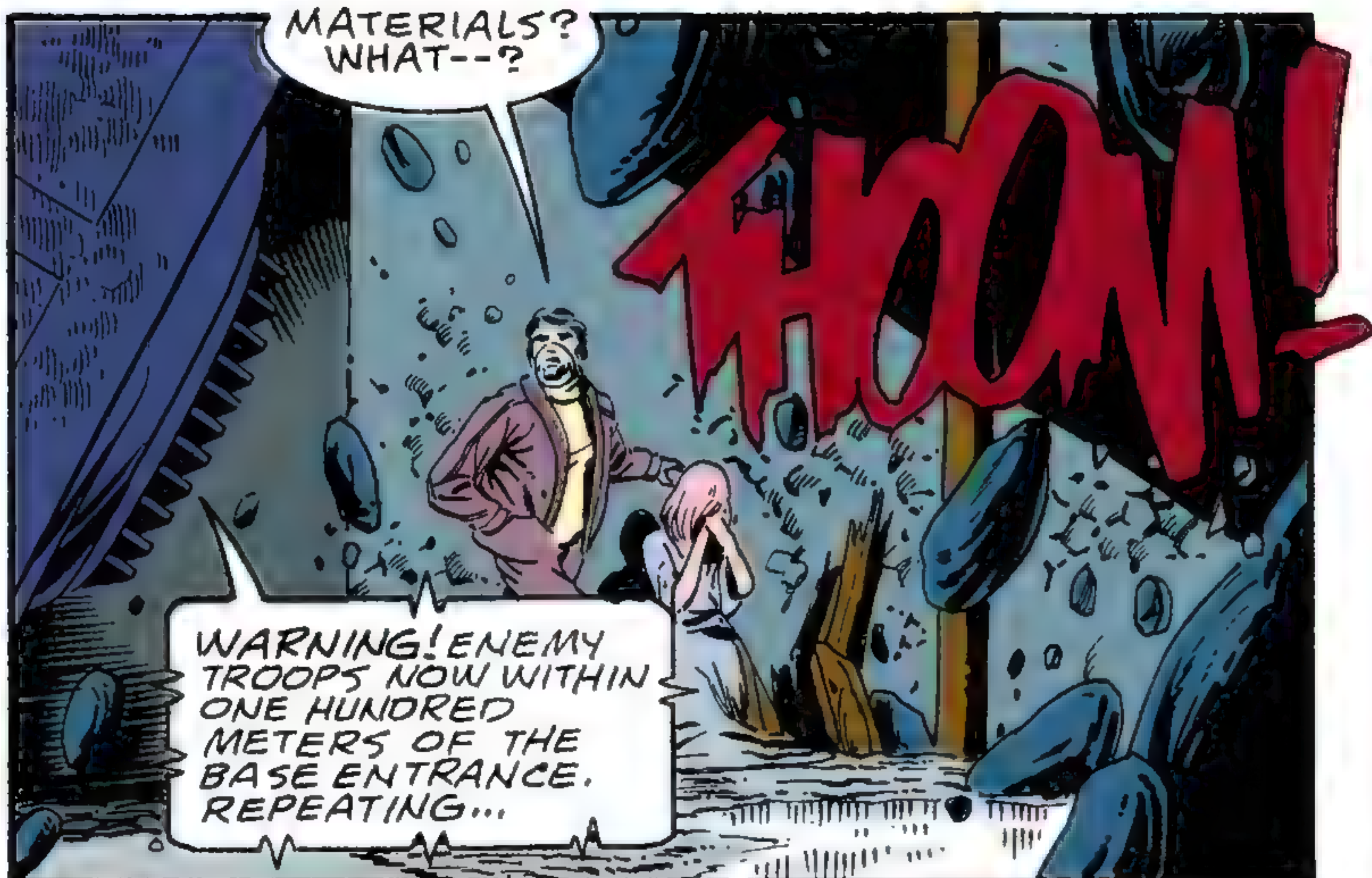
MYSA, THE POWER IS IN YOU. IT ALWAYS HAS BEEN.

YOU'VE GOT TO BELIEVE IT.



IT'S NOT THAT SIMPLE...

DEFENSIVE SPELLS REQUIRE FOCUS, CLARITY, NOT TO MENTION MATERIALS...



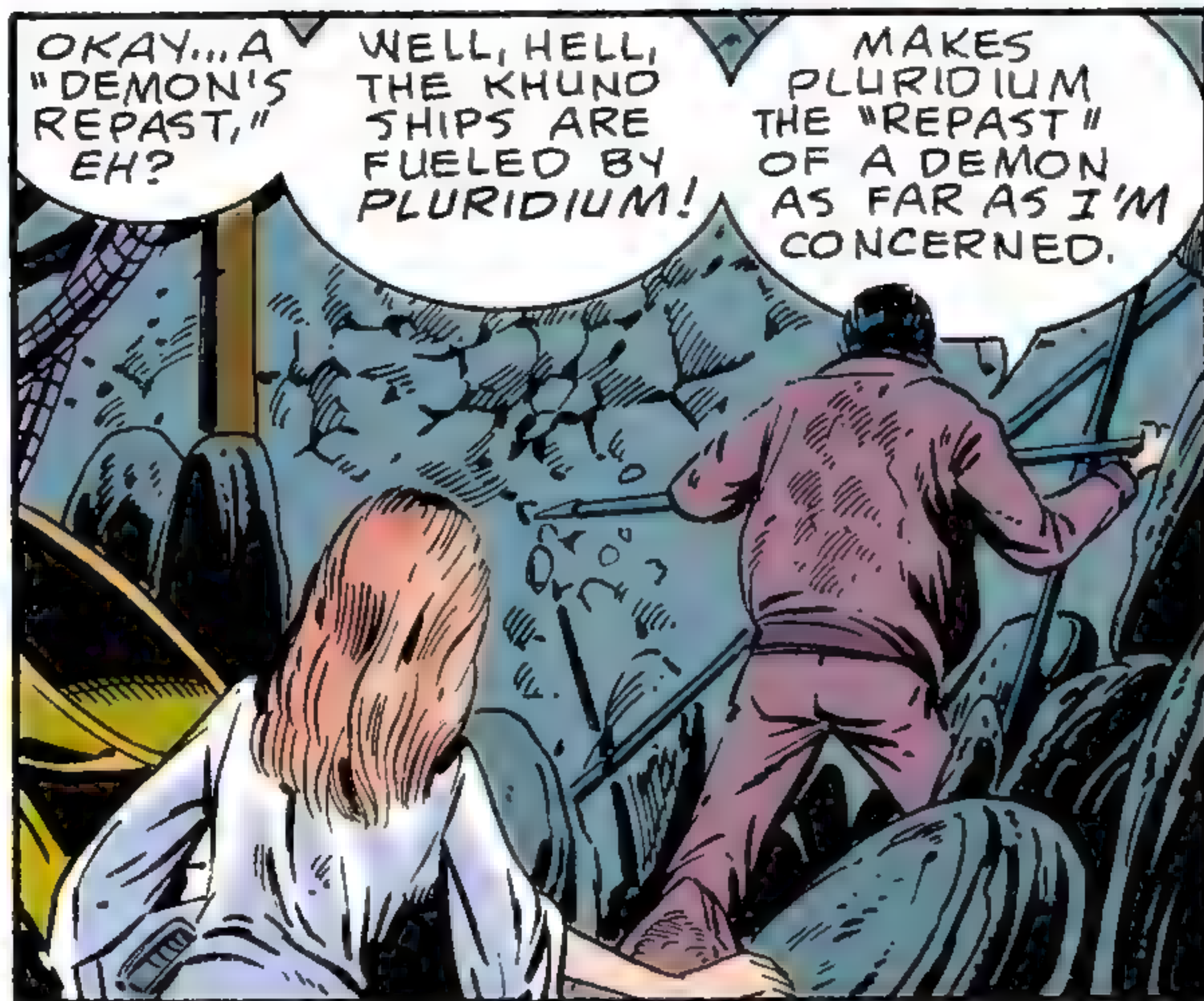
MATERIALS? WHAT--?

WARNING! ENEMY TROOPS NOW WITHIN ONE HUNDRED METERS OF THE BASE ENTRANCE. REPEATING...



C'MON, MYRA! NOW! WHAT DO YOU NEED?

THE SPELL REQUIRES... UH... A DEMON'S REPAST...



OKAY... A "DEMON'S REPAST," EH?

WELL, HELL, THE KHUND SHIPS ARE FUELED BY PLURIDIUM!

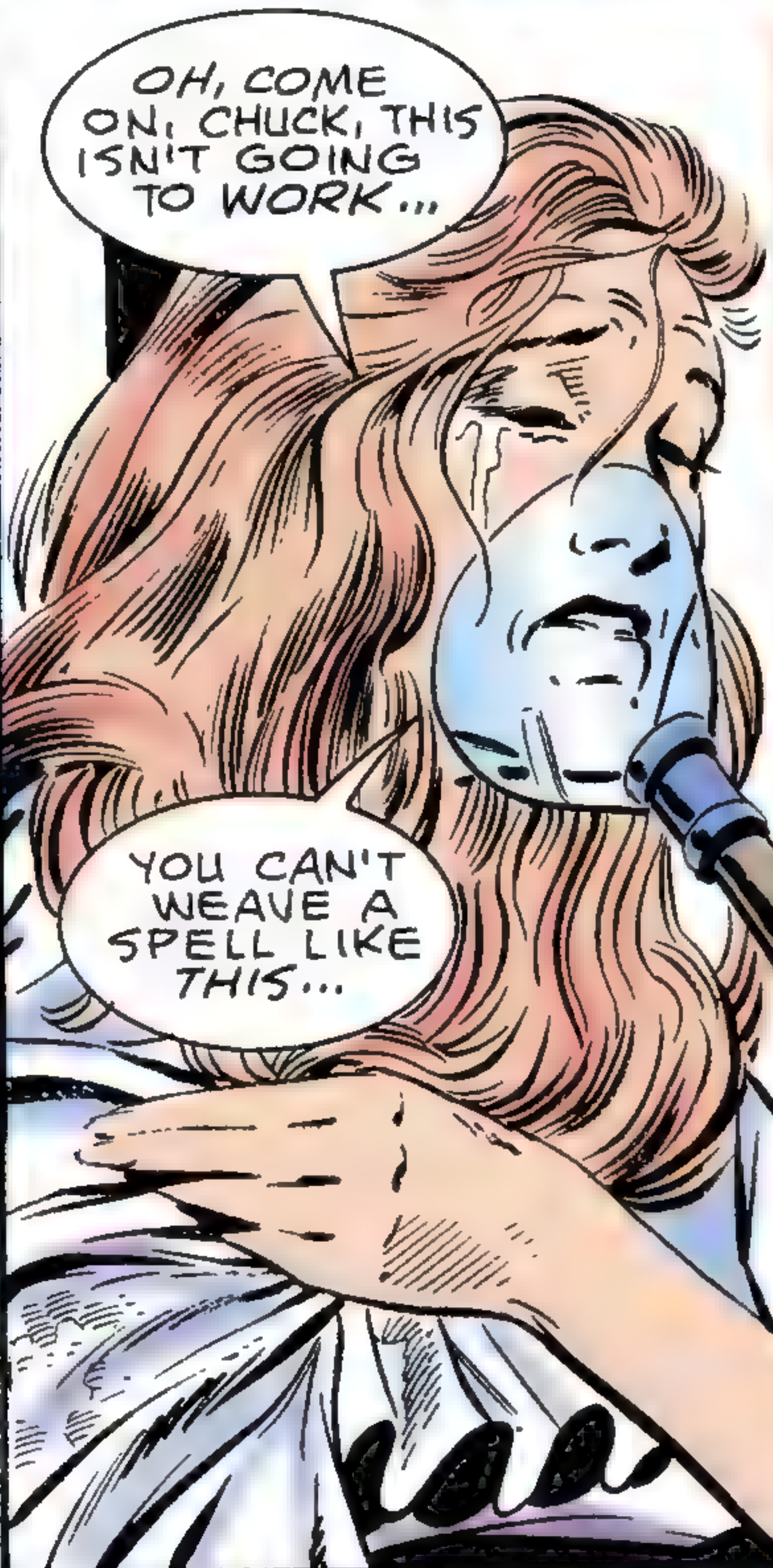
MAKES PLURIDIUM THE "REPAST" OF A DEMON AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED.



WHAT'S NEXT? COME ON!

A, UH, PIECE OF THE HEAVENS, BUT...

OKAY, WELL, SNOW COMES FROM THE HEAVENS, AND THAT STREAM IS JUST MELTED SNOW, RIGHT?!



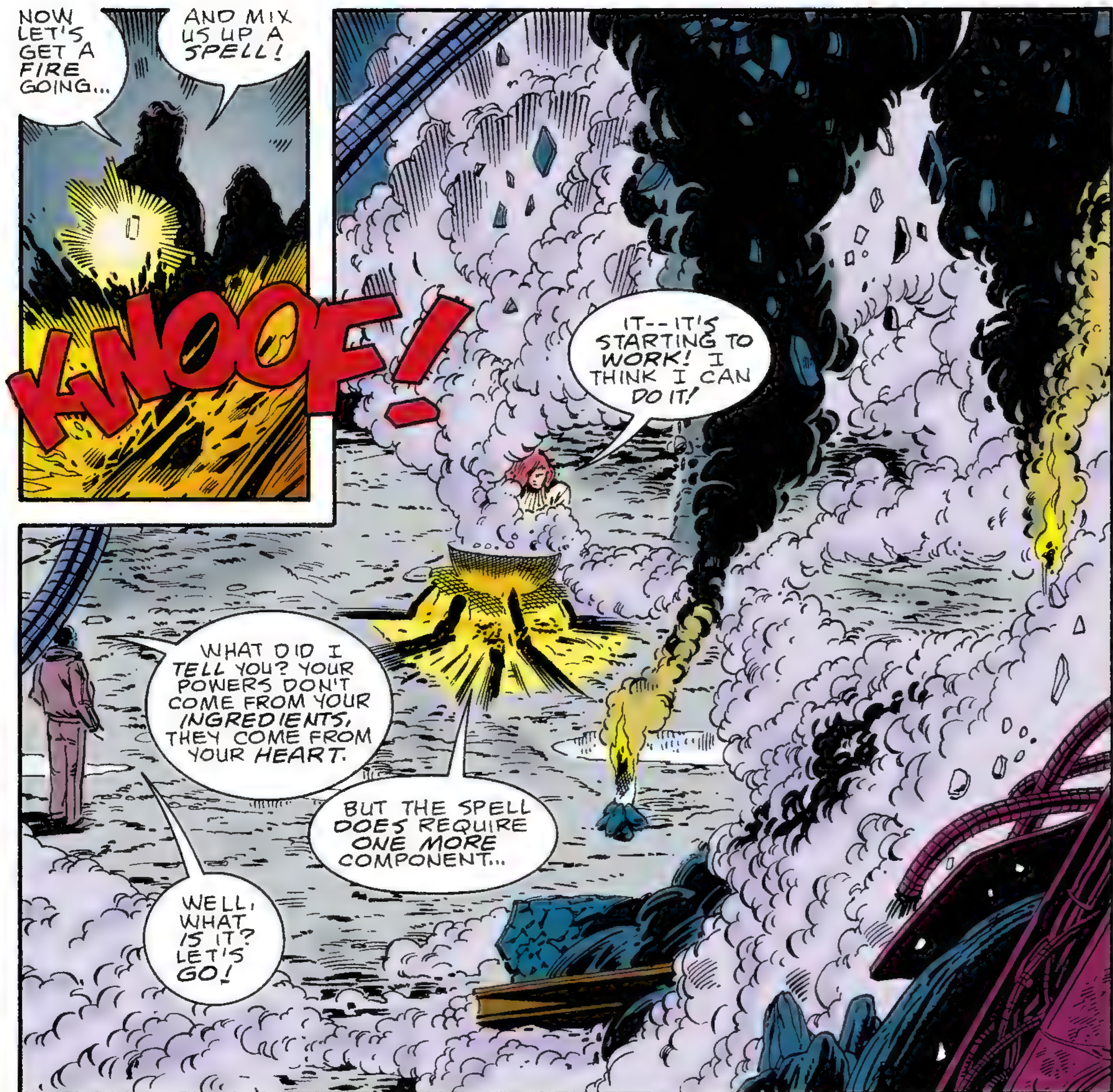
OH, COME ON, CHUCK, THIS ISN'T GOING TO WORK...

YOU CAN'T WEAVE A SPELL LIKE THIS...



THE WHITE WITCH COULD!

AND DAMN IT! THE WHITE WITCH IS STILL INSIDE YOU, MYRA!



NOW LET'S GET A FIRE GOING...

AND MIX US UP A SPELL!

KNOOF!

IT-- IT'S STARTING TO WORK! I THINK I CAN DO IT!

WHAT DID I TELL YOU? YOUR POWERS DON'T COME FROM YOUR INGREDIENTS, THEY COME FROM YOUR HEART.

BUT THE SPELL DOES REQUIRE ONE MORE COMPONENT...

WELL, WHAT IS IT? LET'S GO!



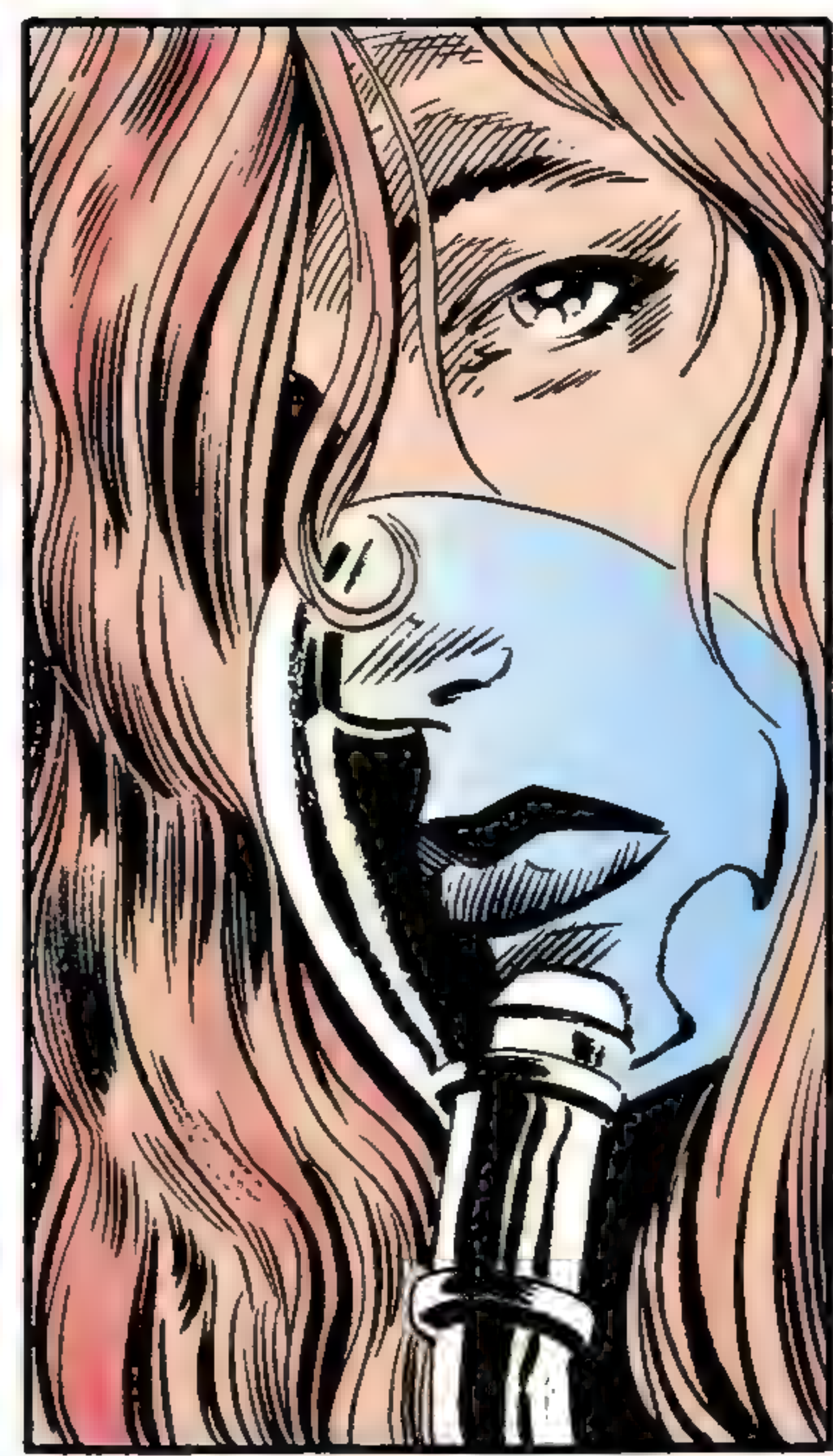
I NEED THE BLOOD OF A DEAD BEAST...

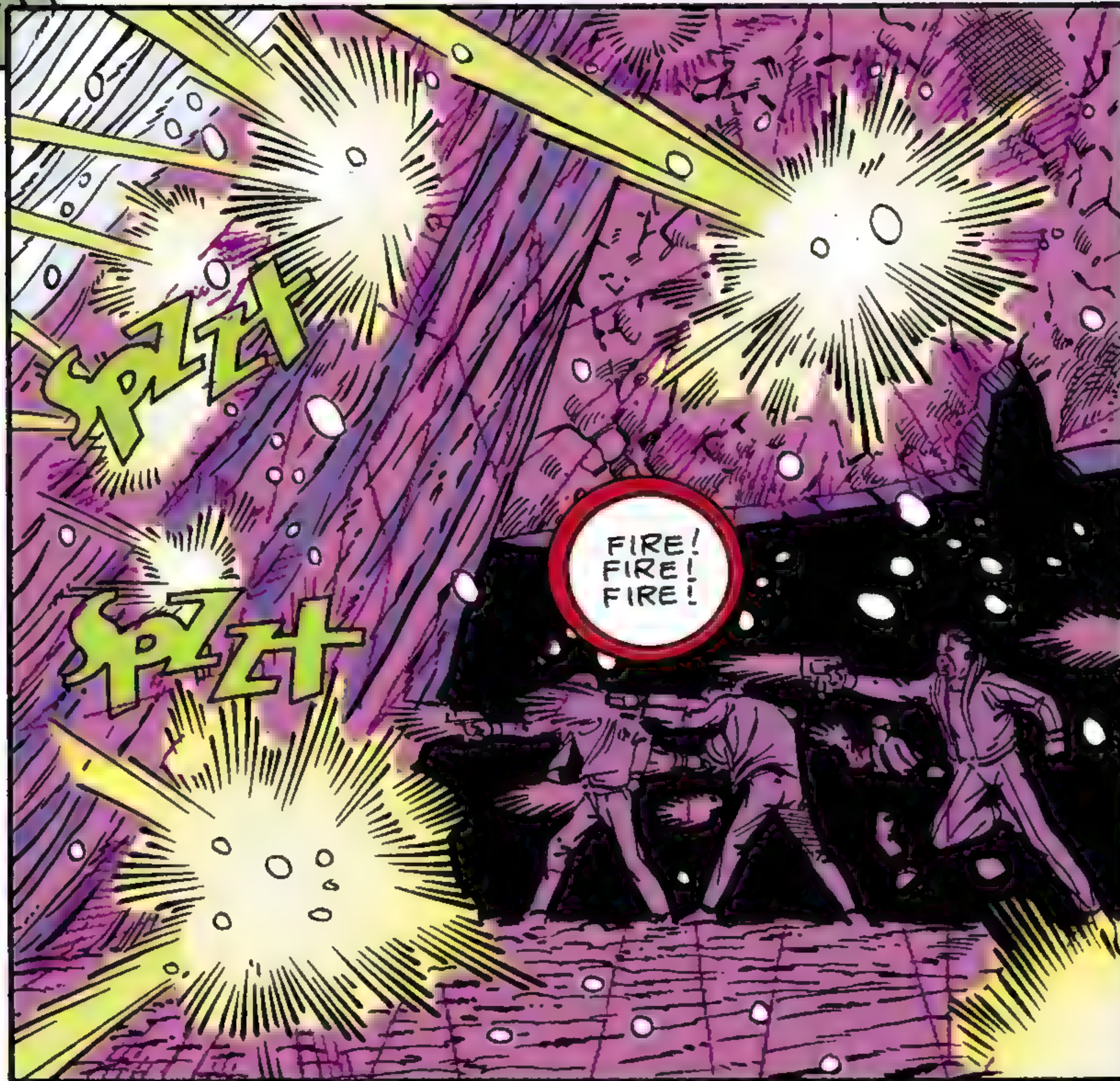
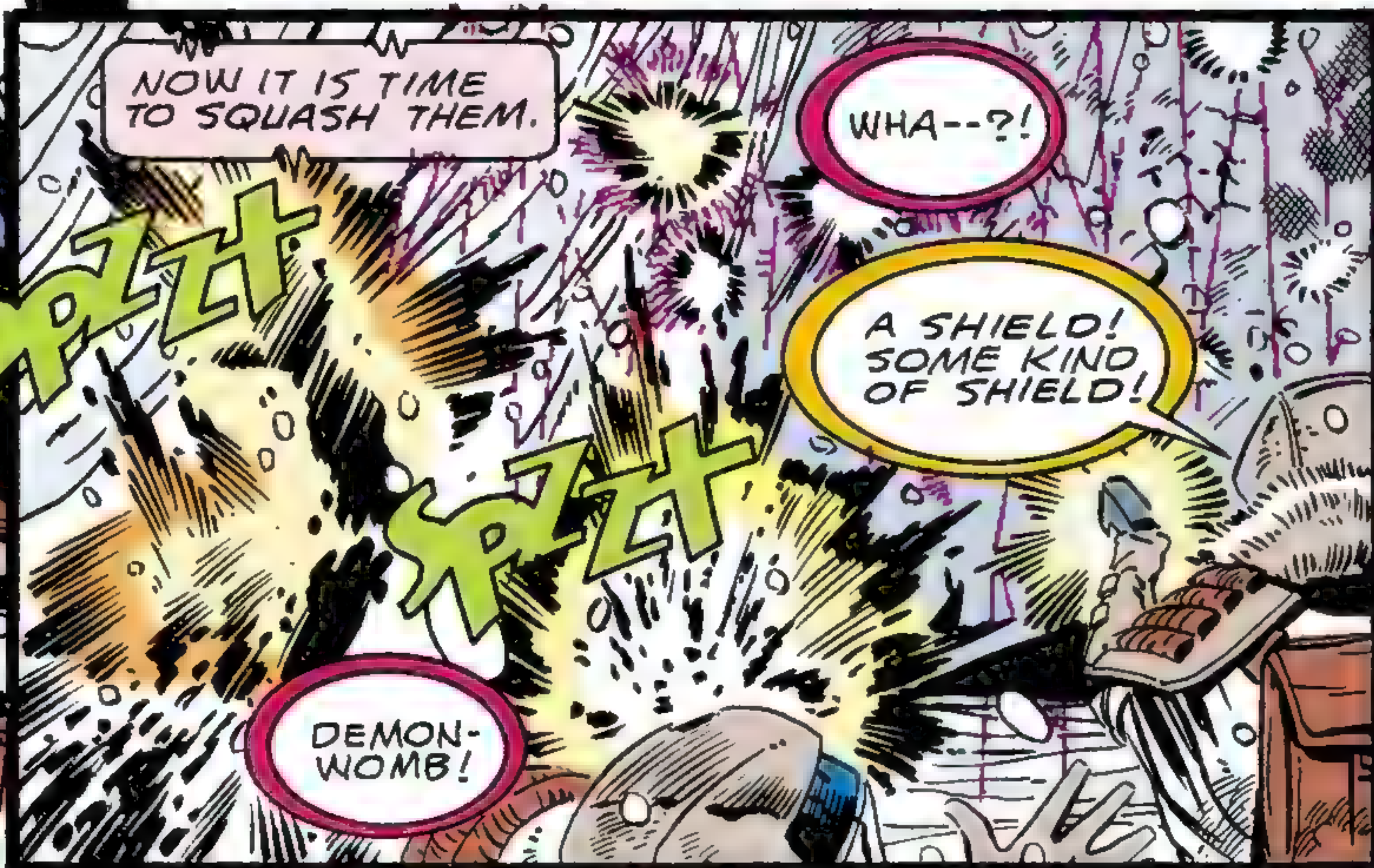
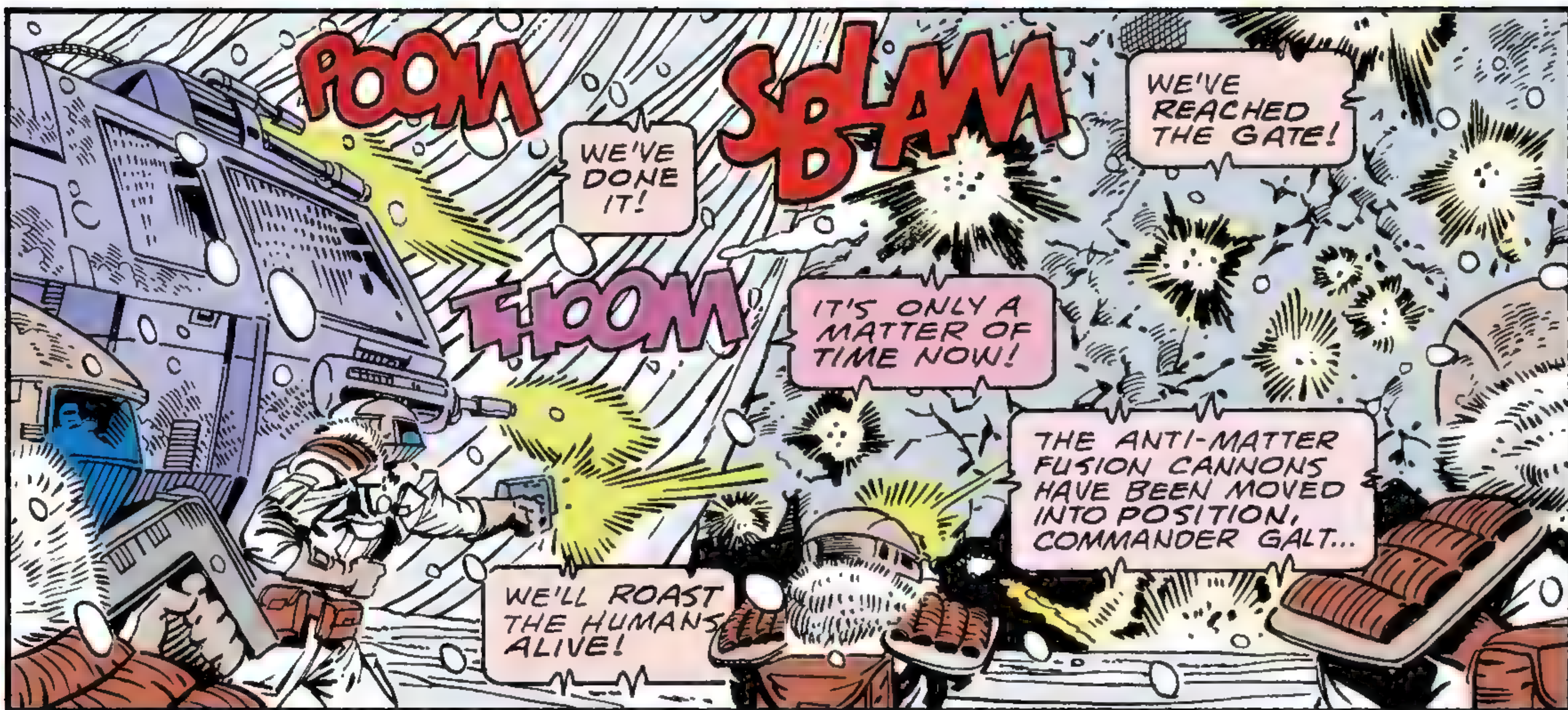
OH. UH...

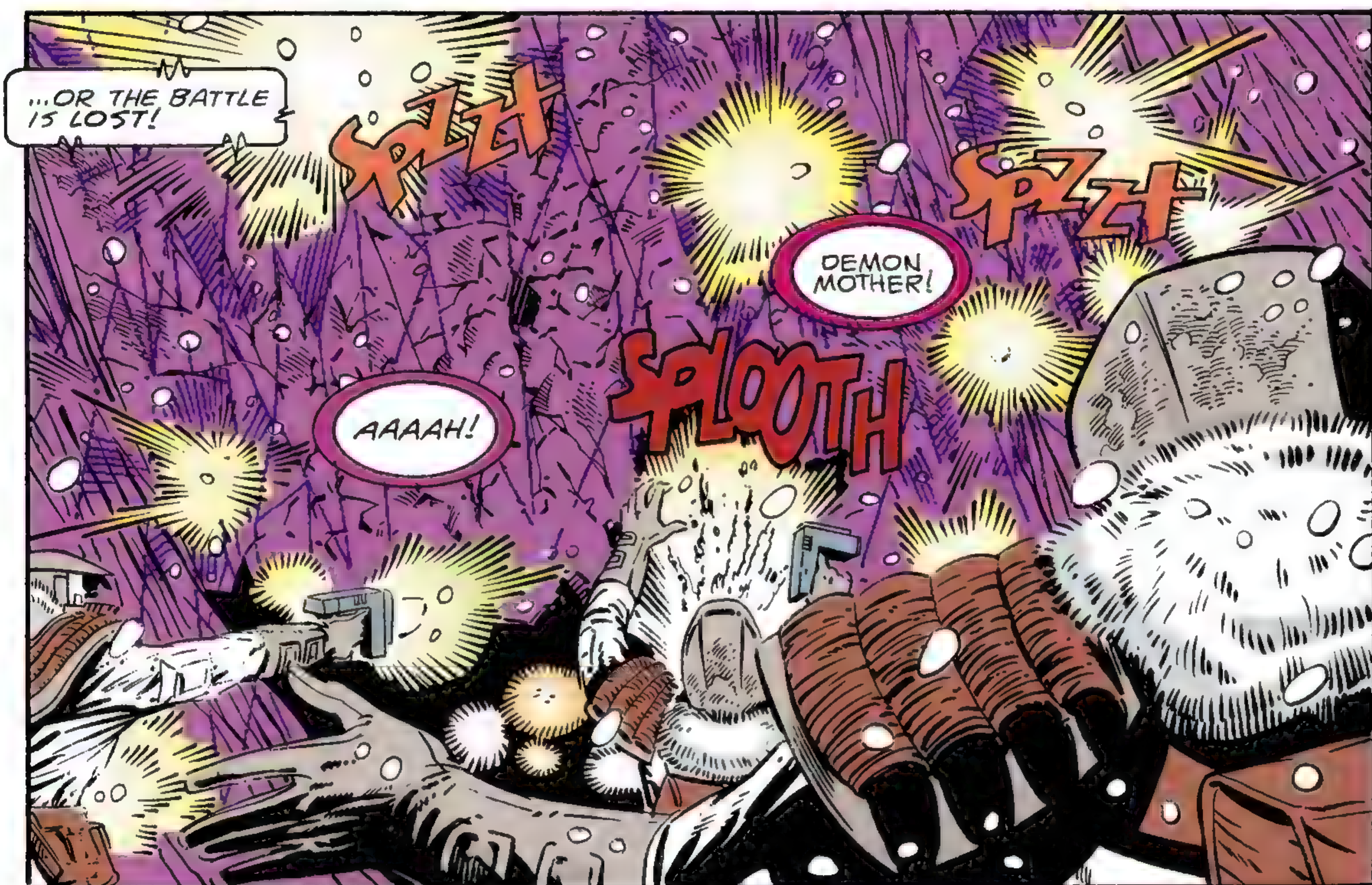


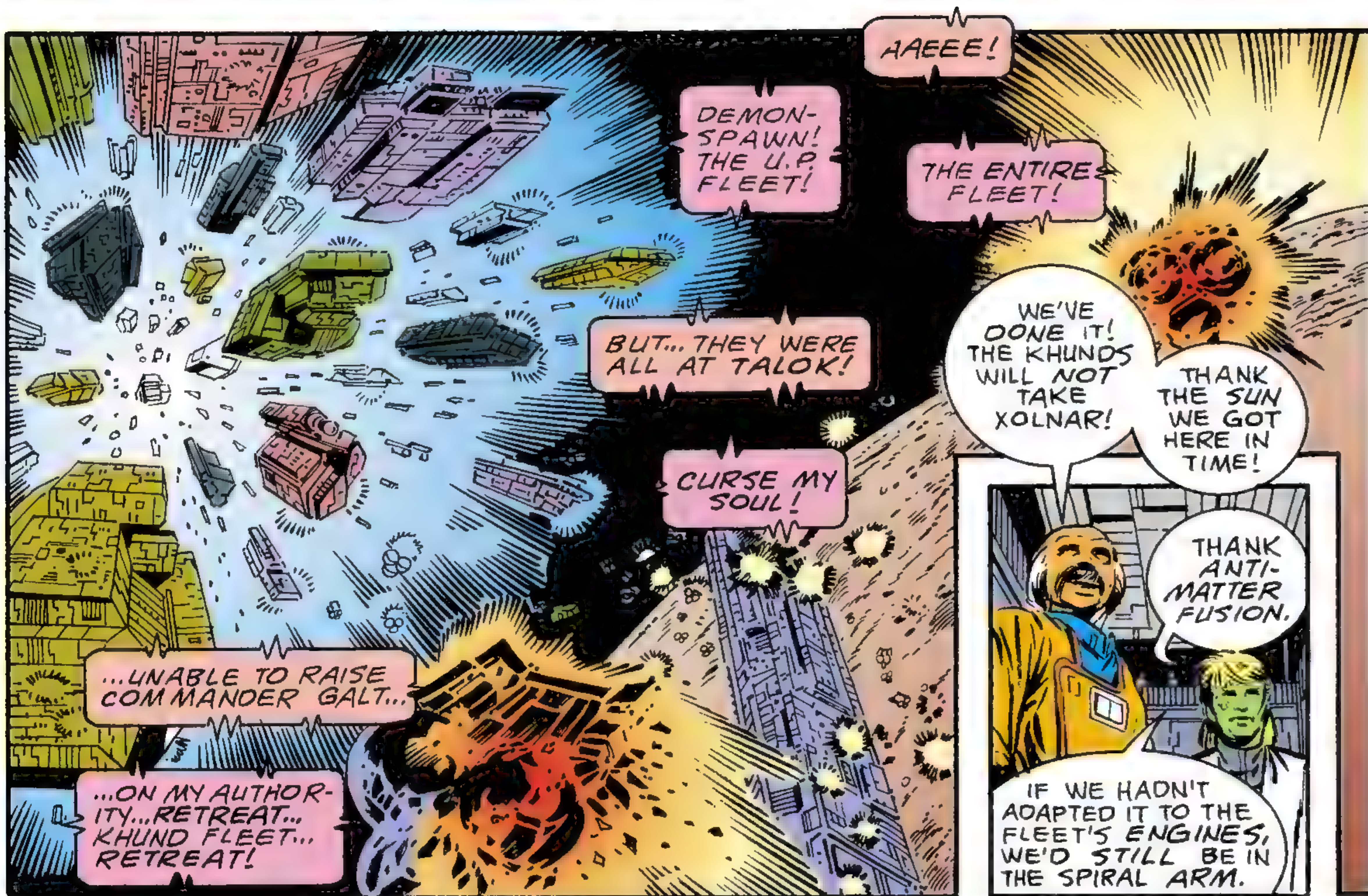
I KNOW THIS WON'T BE PLEASANT, MYSA...

BUT THE ONE THING THAT'S NOT IN SHORT SUPPLY AROUND HERE IS DEATH.









AAEEE!

DEMON-
SPAWN!
THE U.P.
FLEET!

THE ENTIRE
FLEET!

BUT... THEY WERE
ALL AT TALOK!

CURSE MY
SOUL!

...UNABLE TO RAISE
COMMANDER GALT...

...ON MY AUTHOR-
ITY... RETREAT...
KHUND FLEET...
RETREAT!

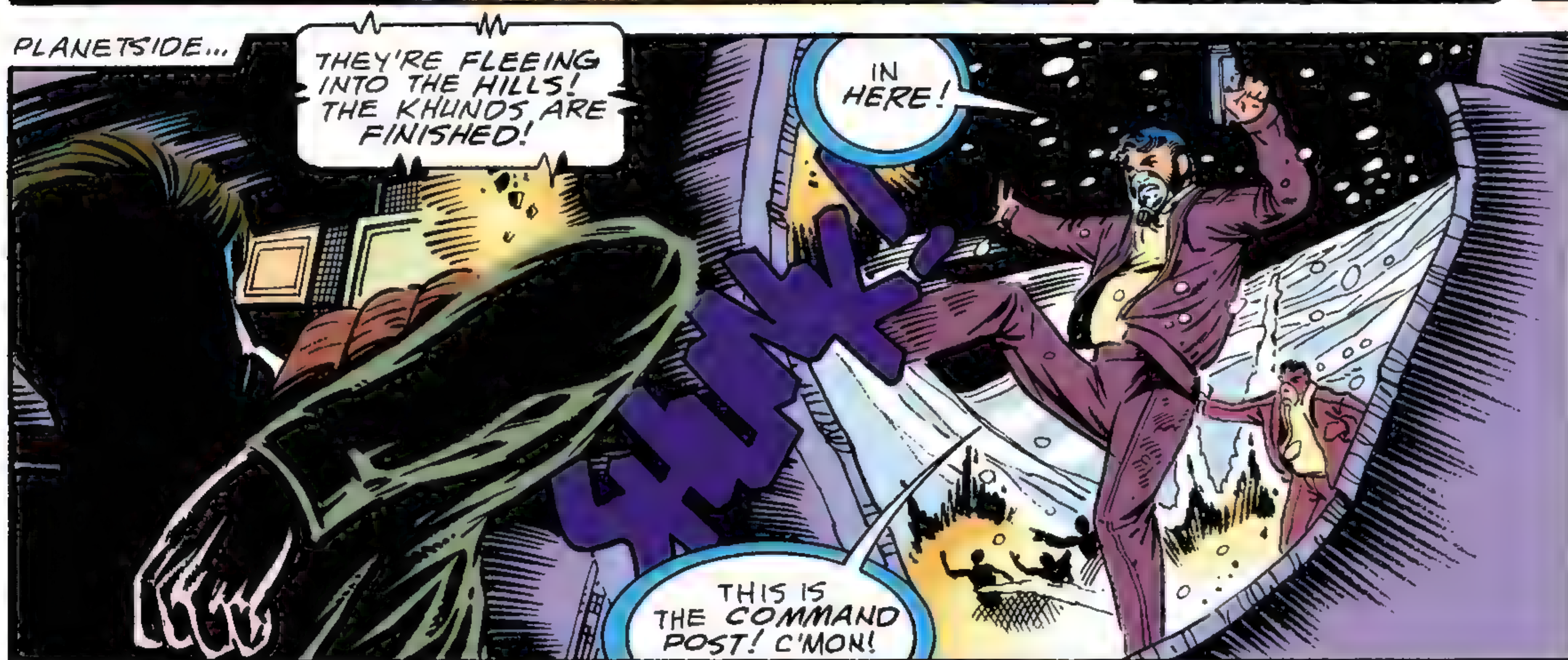
WE'VE
DONE IT!
THE KHUNDS
WILL NOT
TAKE
XOLNAR!

THANK
THE SUN
WE GOT
HERE IN
TIME!



THANK
ANTI-
MATTER
FUSION.

IF WE HADN'T
ADOPTED IT TO THE
FLEET'S ENGINES,
WE'D STILL BE IN
THE SPIRAL ARM.



PLANETSIDE...

THEY'RE FLEEING
INTO THE HILLS!
THE KHUNDS ARE
FINISHED!

IN
HERE!

THIS IS
THE COMMAND
POST! C'MON!



I'VE BEEN
WAITING FOR
THIS MOMENT,
GALT!



WHA--!
Y-YOU'RE
NOT
GALT!

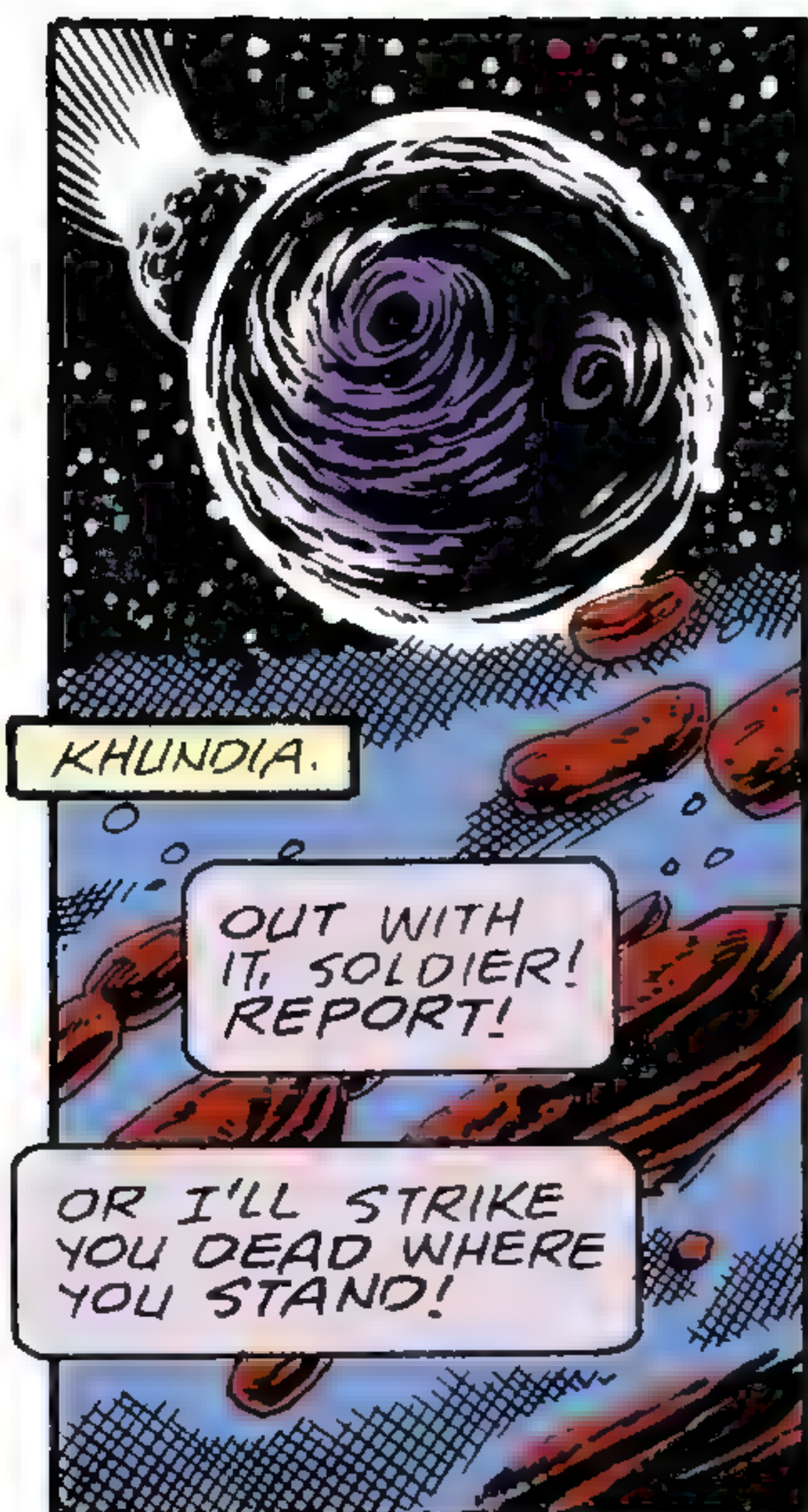
WHAT
HAPPENED
TO GALT?
WHERE
IS HE?



OUR "FEARLESS
COMMANDER"...

...LEFT ME HERE
AS A DECOY
...DISGUISED
HIMSELF AS AN
ENLISTED MAN...

...AND
RAN LIKE
A DIRT.



KHUNDIA.

OUT WITH IT, SOLDIER! REPORT!

OR I'LL STRIKE YOU DEAD WHERE YOU STAND!



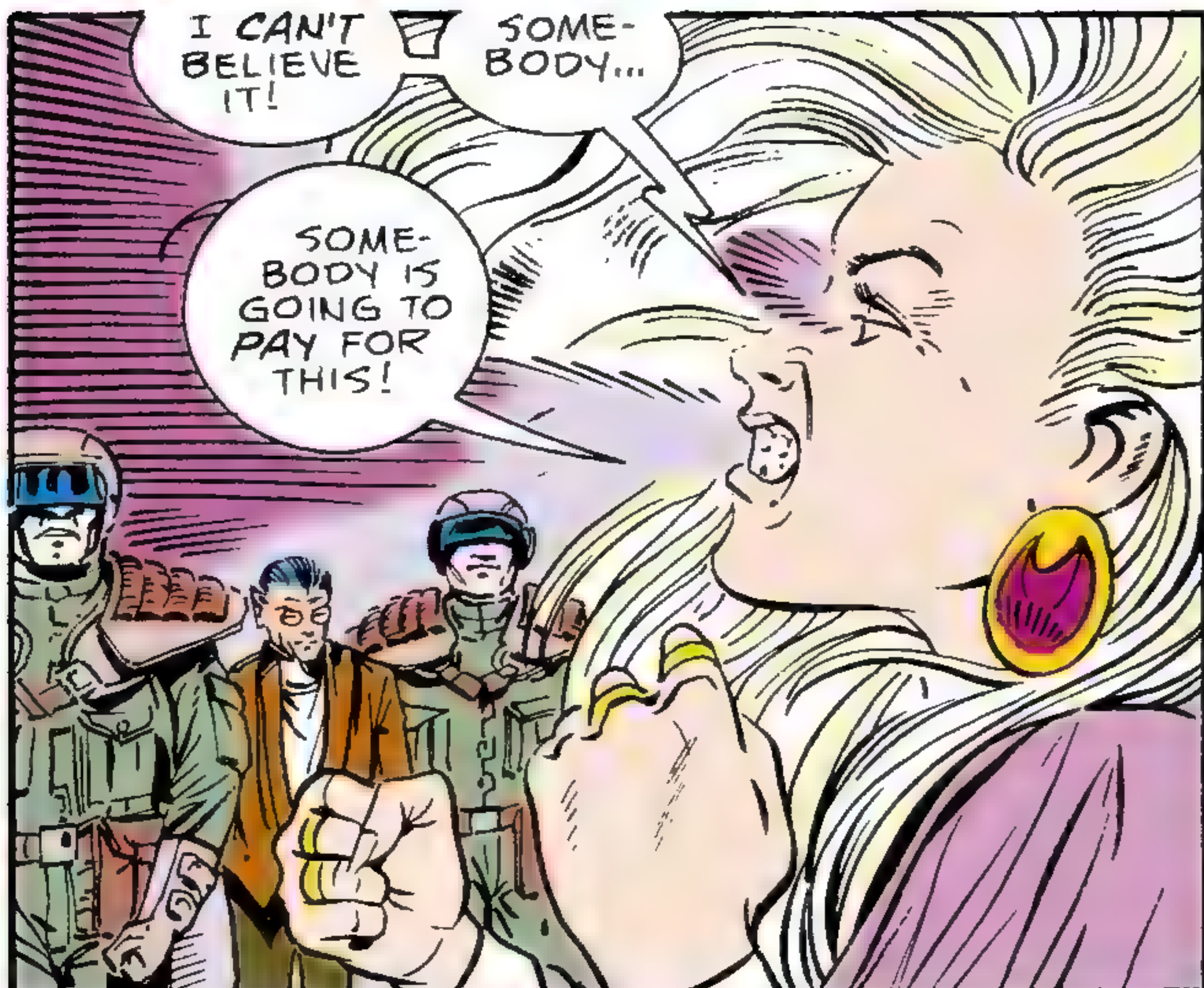
THE FLEET, DEMON MOTHER, IT'S SUFFERED A...UH... SET-BACK!

THE ATTACKS ON TALOK AND XOLNAR... HAVE ...UH... NOT SUCCEEDED...

IS THIS SOME SORT OF JOKE?!

NO, YOUR MAJESTY. THE FLEET IS IN... IT'S IN FULL RETREAT...

I... I DON'T BELIEVE IT...



I CAN'T BELIEVE IT!

SOME-BODY...

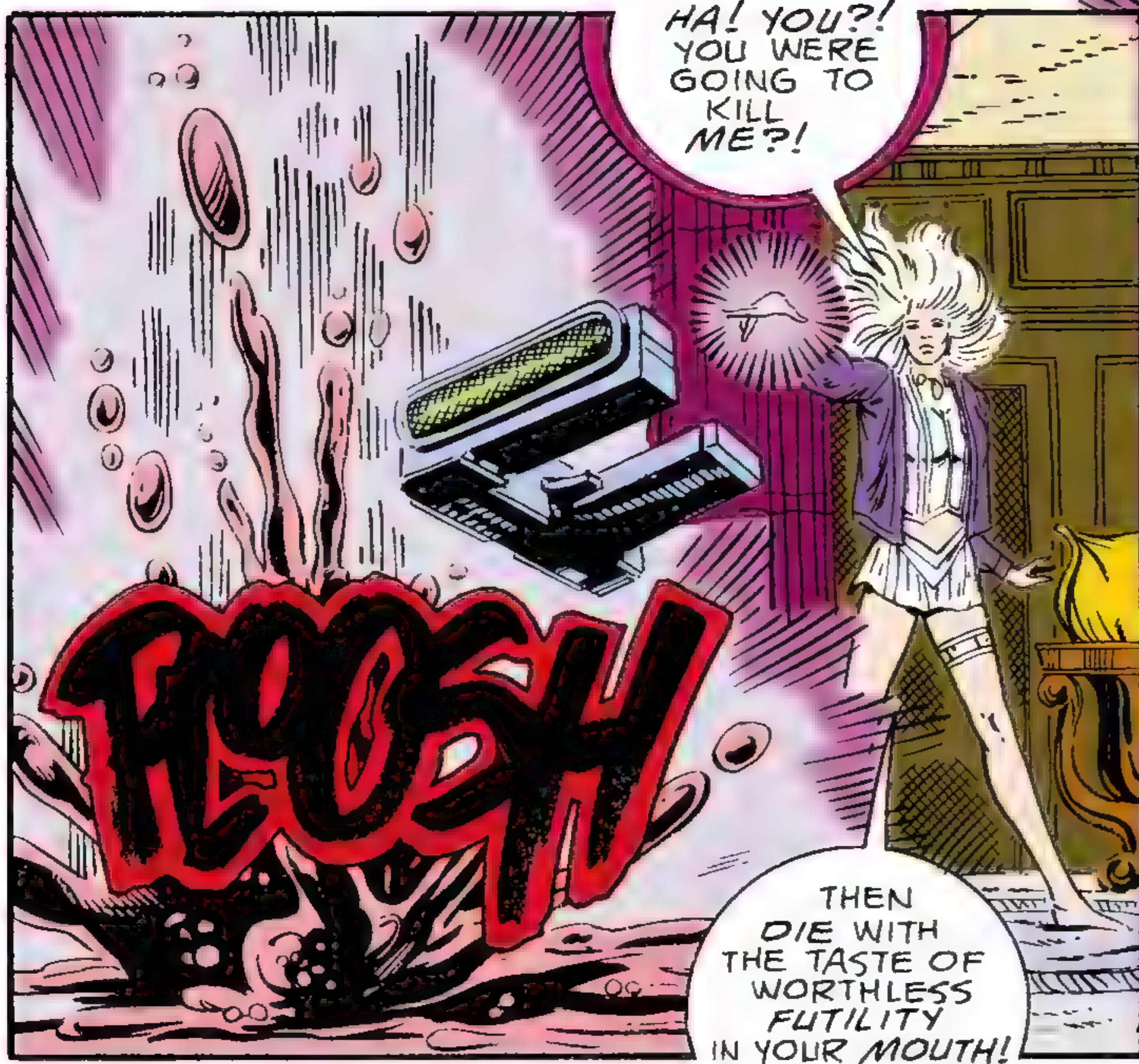
SOME-BODY IS GOING TO PAY FOR THIS!



MY WEAPON!

NO!

THIS TIME YOU PAY, WITCH!



HA! YOU?! YOU WERE GOING TO KILL ME?!

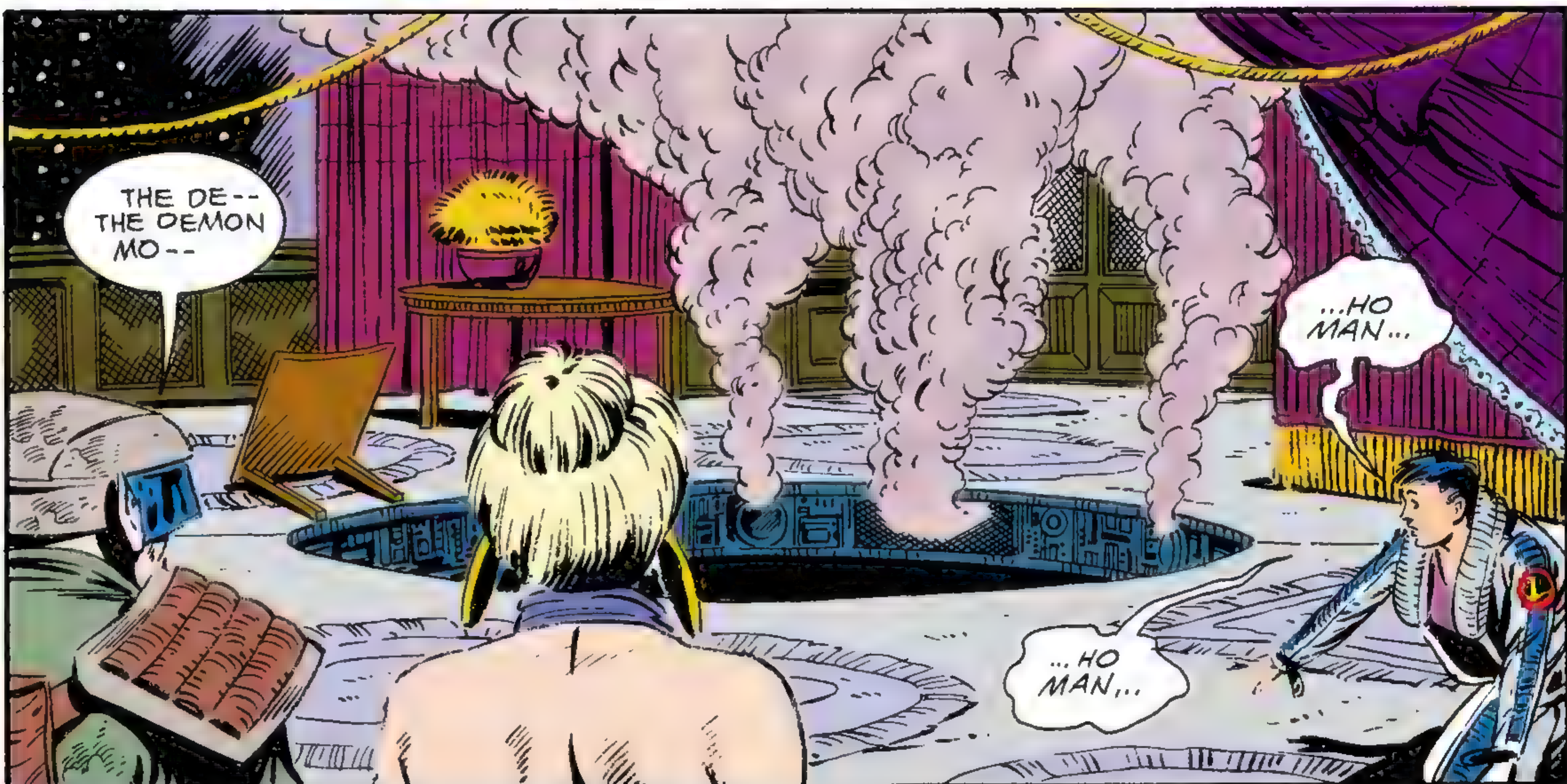
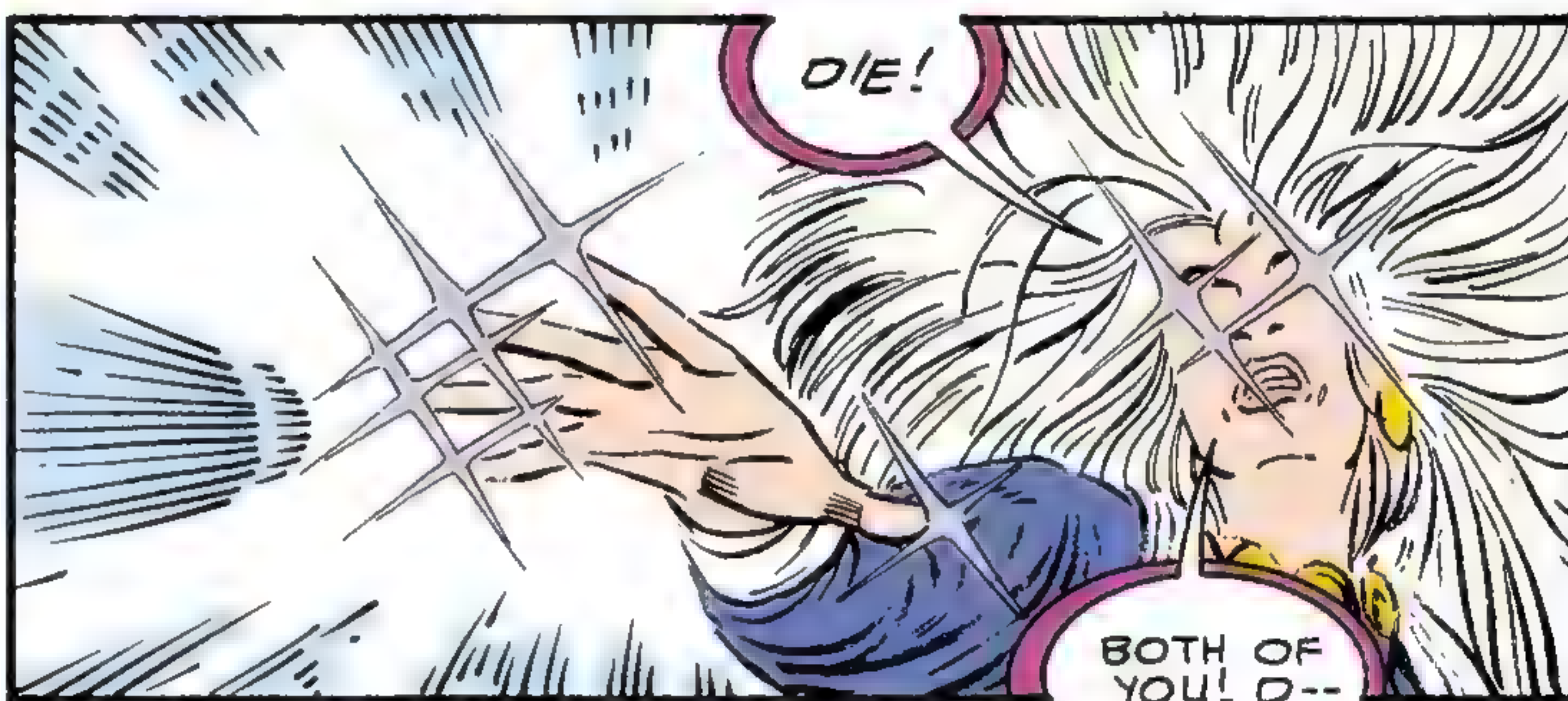
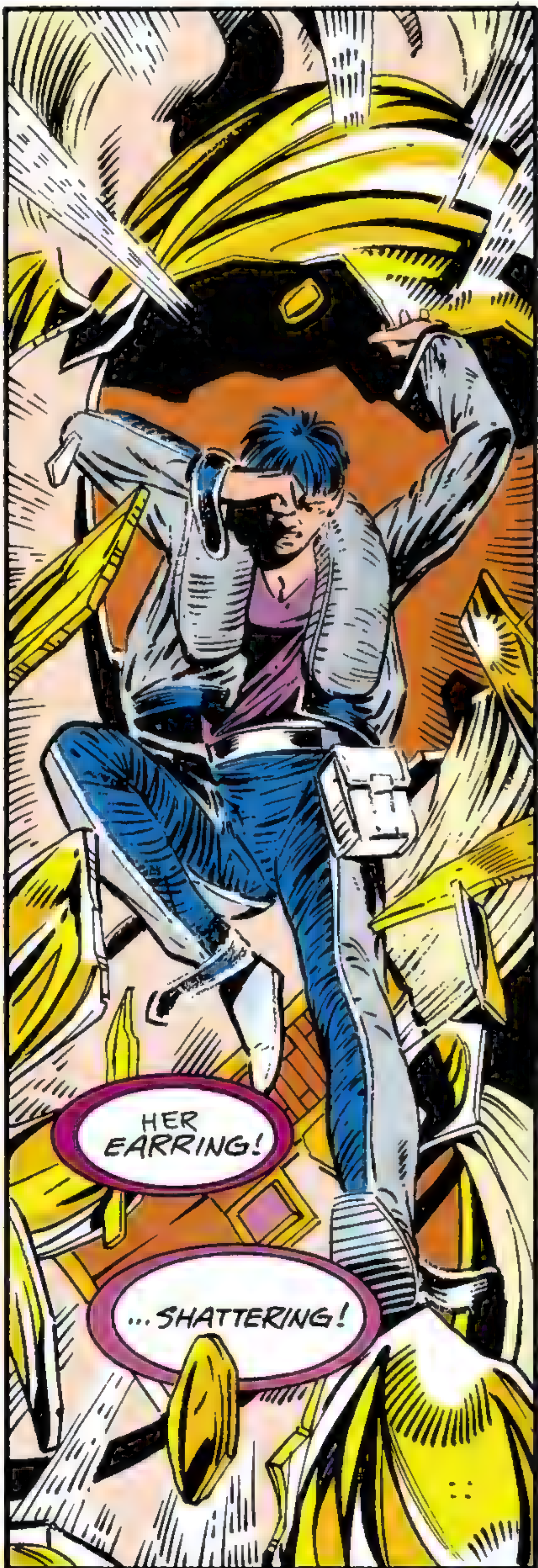
THEN DIE WITH THE TASTE OF WORTHLESS FUTILITY IN YOUR MOUTH!



HUH? G-GLORITH DISTRACTED...

...HER HOLD ON ME... WEAKENING...

NOW, VIOLET! ...NOW!



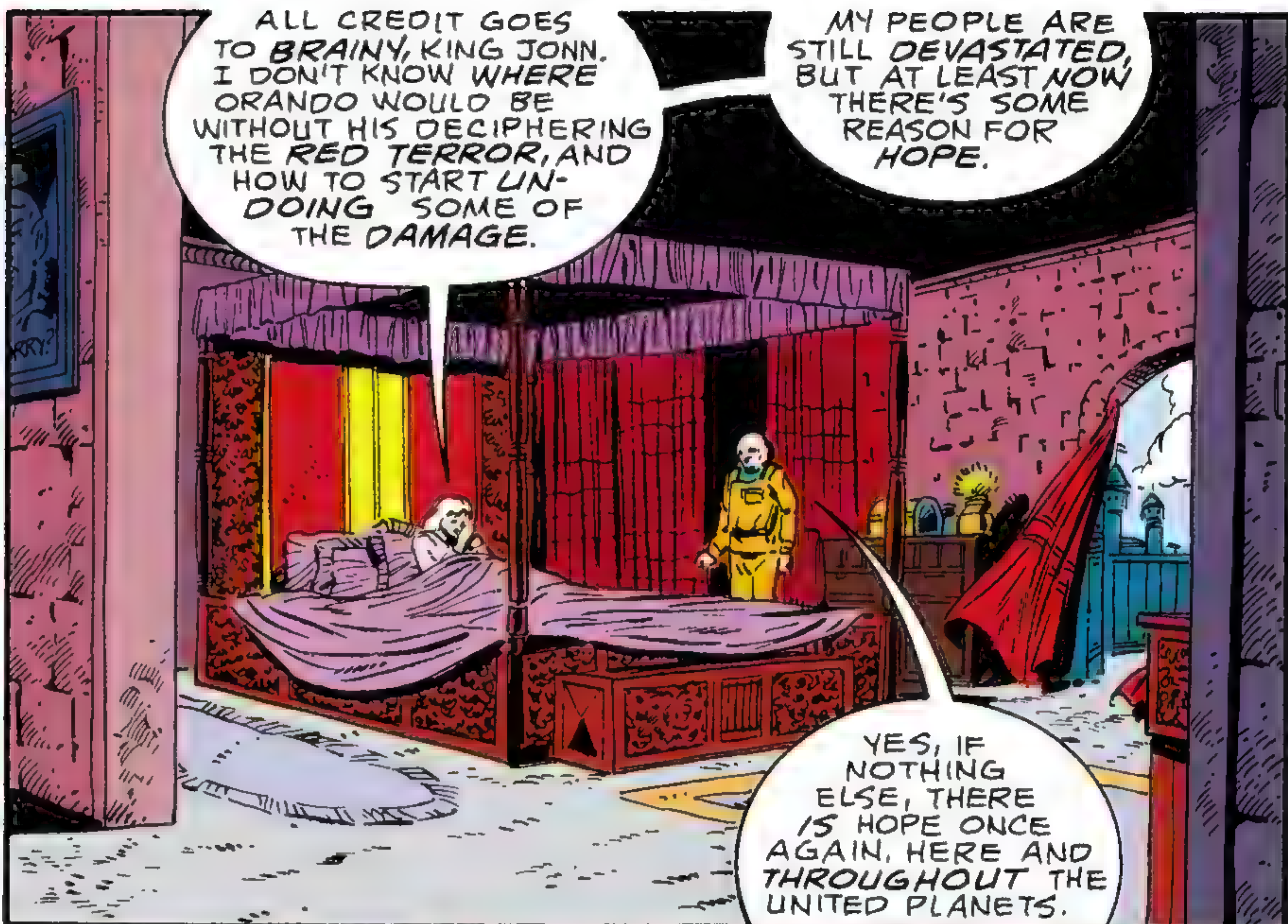
ORANDO...

IT'S A PLEASURE
TO SEE YOU RE-
COVERING SO
QUICKLY, QUEEN
PROJECTRA.



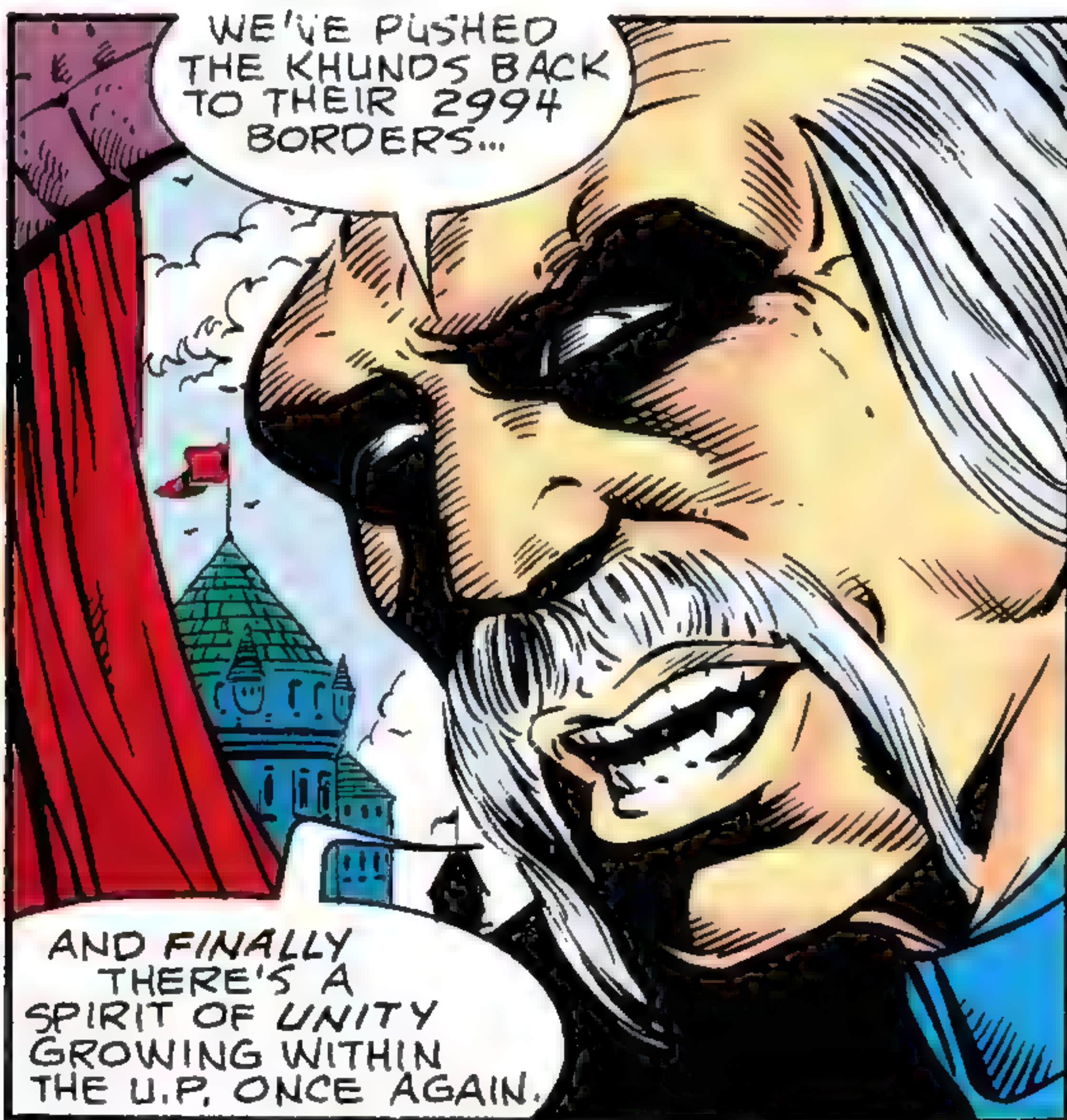
ALL CREDIT GOES
TO BRAINY, KING JONN.
I DON'T KNOW WHERE
ORANDO WOULD BE
WITHOUT HIS DECIPHERING
THE RED TERROR, AND
HOW TO START UN-
DOING SOME OF
THE DAMAGE.

MY PEOPLE ARE
STILL DEVASTATED,
BUT AT LEAST NOW
THERE'S SOME
REASON FOR
HOPE.



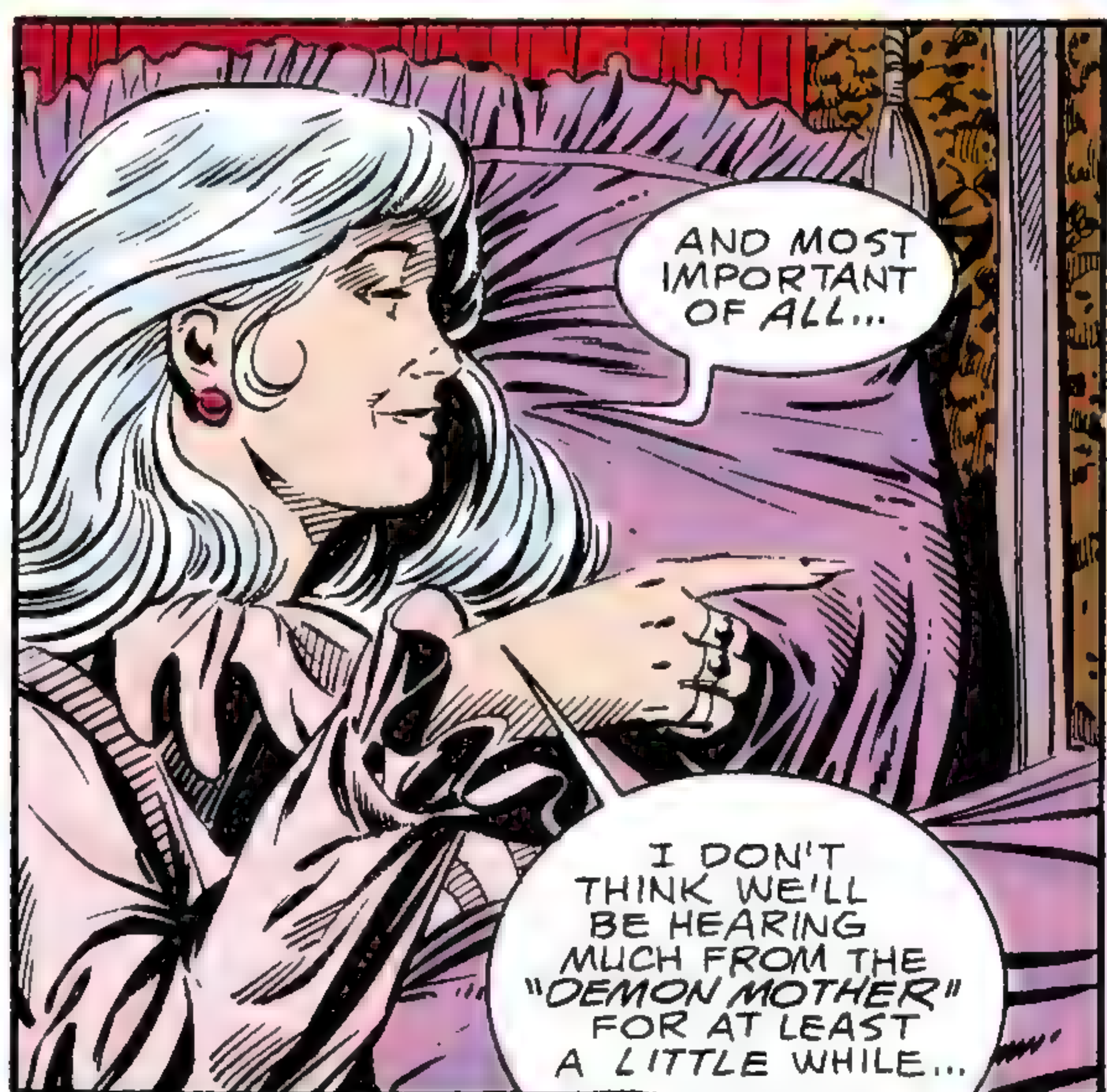
YES, IF
NOTHING
ELSE, THERE
IS HOPE ONCE
AGAIN, HERE AND
THROUGHOUT THE
UNITED PLANETS.

WE'VE PUSHED
THE KHUNDS BACK
TO THEIR 2994
BORDERS...



AND FINALLY
THERE'S A
SPIRIT OF UNITY
GROWING WITHIN
THE U.P. ONCE AGAIN.

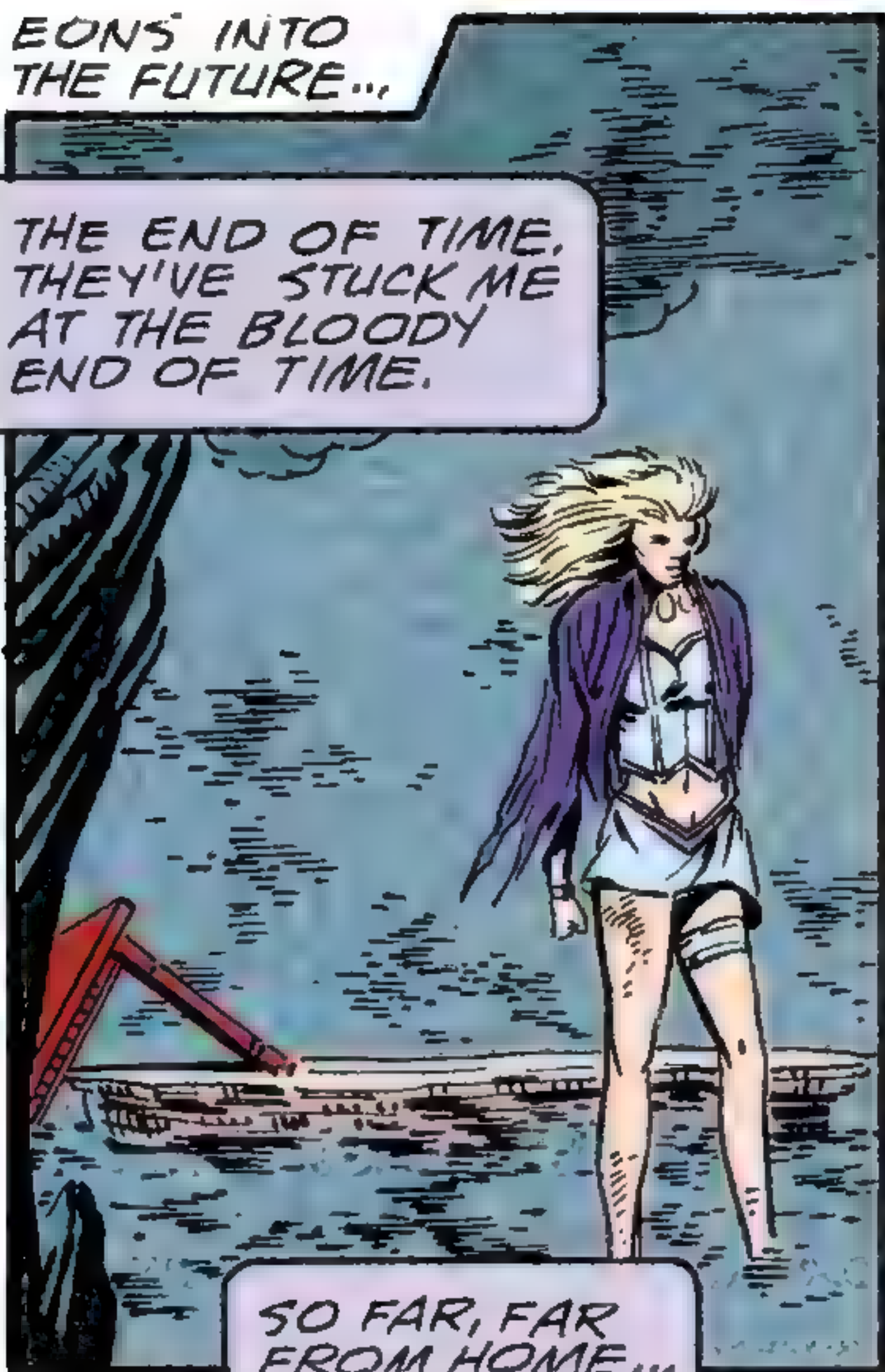
AND MOST
IMPORTANT
OF ALL...



I DON'T
THINK WE'LL
BE HEARING
MUCH FROM THE
"DEMON MOTHER"
FOR AT LEAST
A LITTLE WHILE...

EONS INTO
THE FUTURE...

THE END OF TIME,
THEY'VE STUCK ME
AT THE BLOODY
END OF TIME.



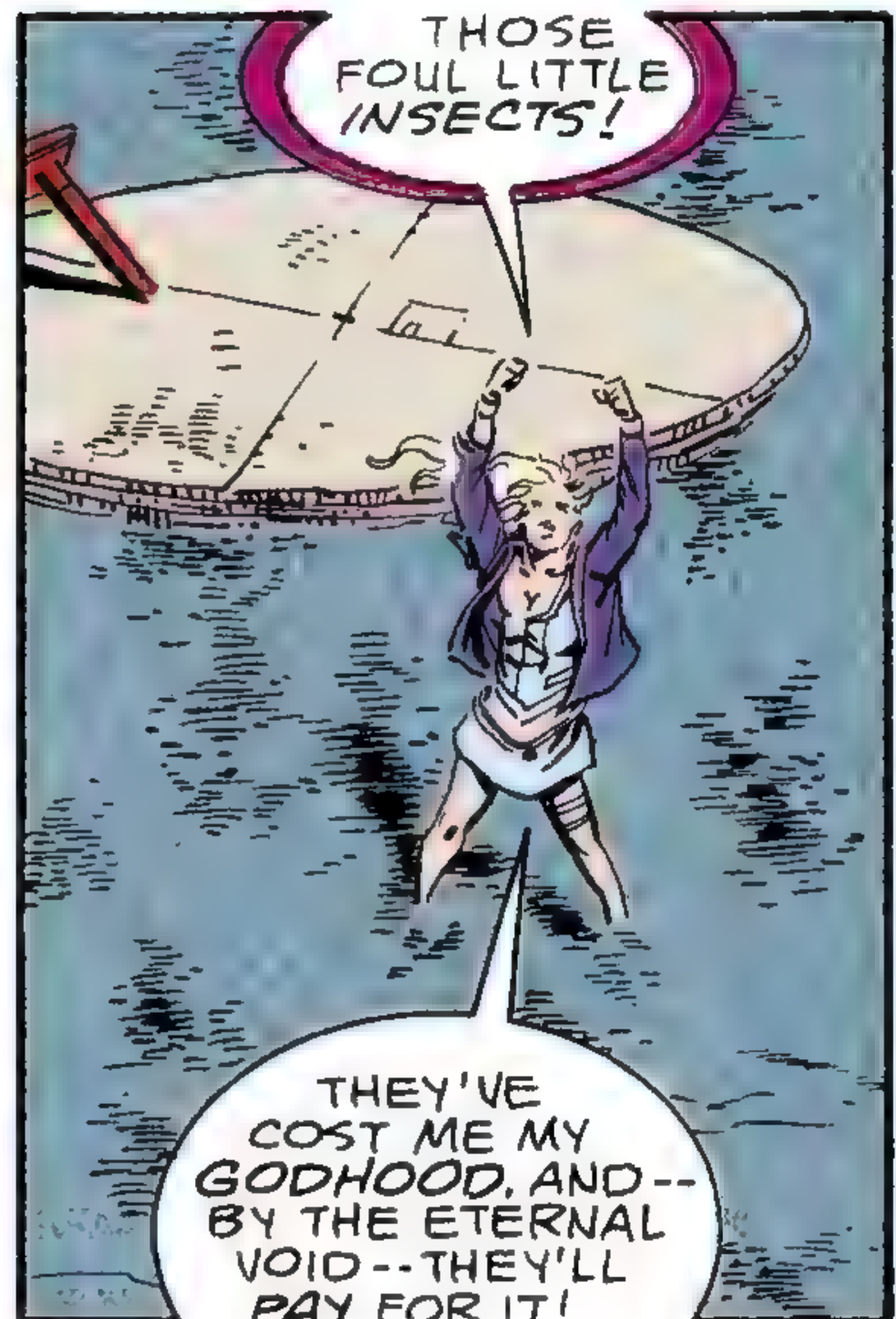
SO FAR, FAR
FROM HOME...

I'LL NEVER BE
ABLE TO GET
BACK WITHOUT
SACRIFICING
MOST OF MY
POWER.



AND THEY
KNEW IT!

THOSE
FOUL LITTLE
INSECTS!



THEY'VE
COST ME MY
GODHOOD, AND--
BY THE ETERNAL
VOID--THEY'LL
PAY FOR IT!

THE

ANY PLANET

DAILY PLANET

EARTHGOV

EXECUTES

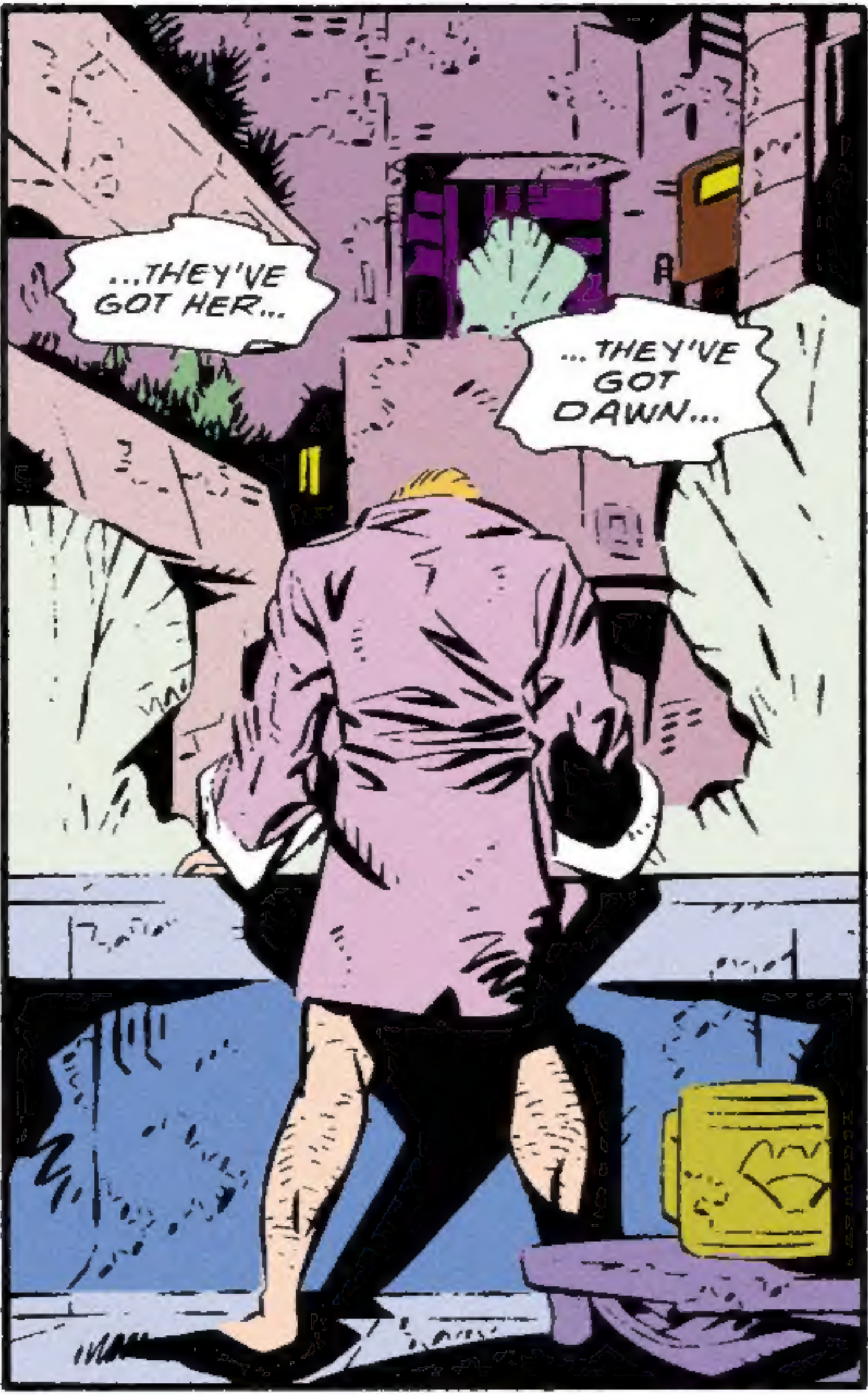
ALLEN DUO

Charge Is Treason:
One-Day Trial Draws
Worldwide Protest

by Girard Montblanc
Staff Writer

METROPOLIS—Dawn
Jae and Donald Wallace Allen,
once known as the “Tornado
Twins,” were executed Mon-

III

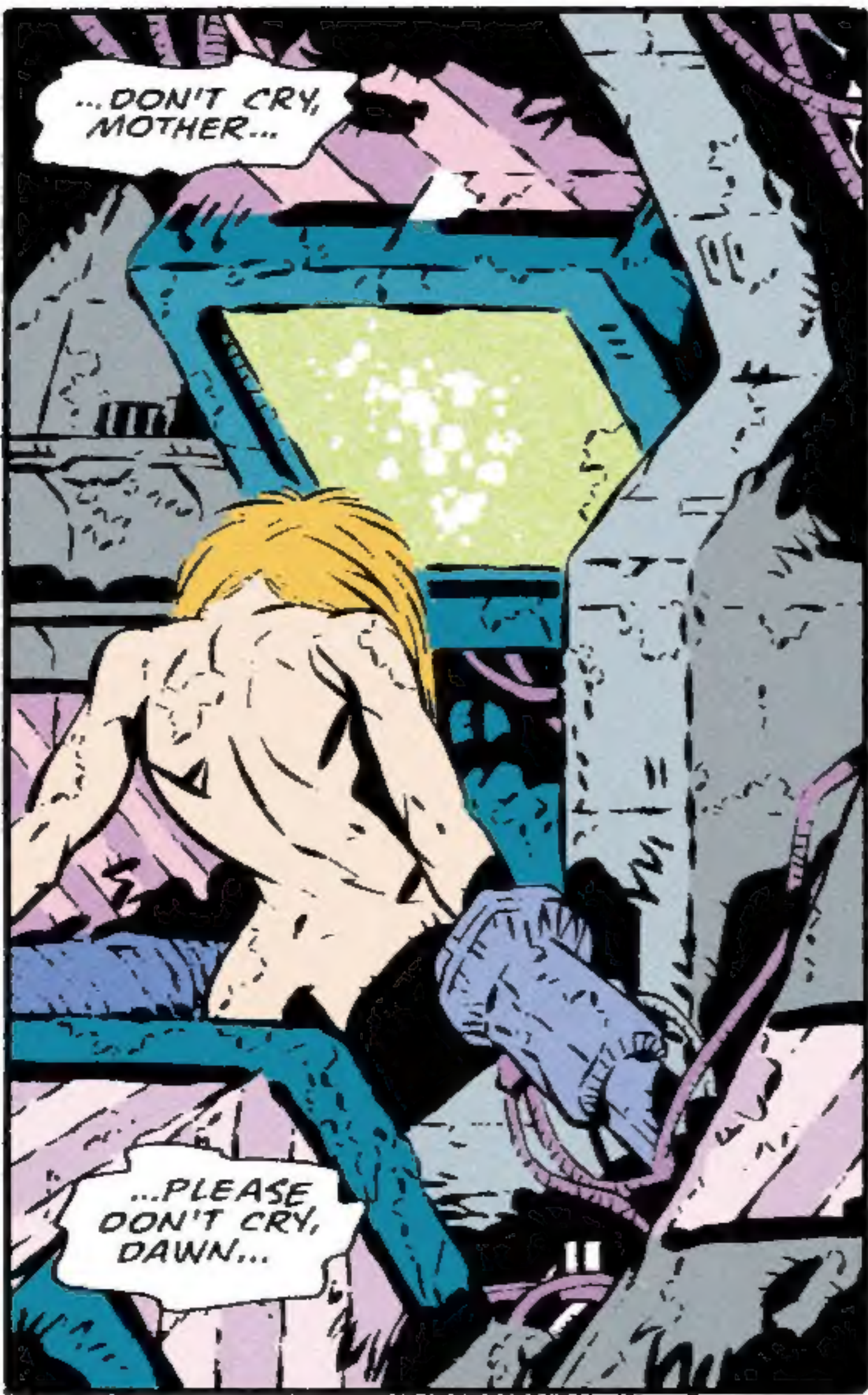


day, two days after their arrest in Quebec City on charges of treason. Earthgov holovidded the execution globally as a “warning against all who would betray their own people.”

Another worldwide wave of anti-Earthgov protests was touched off by the executions. Numerous civil-libertarian groups have condemned the one-day trial and immediate nega-pulse terminations of the Allens, twin offspring of the 20th-century hero The Flash.

The Allens, both 29, were convicted Sunday of conspir-

III



ing with “Khund agitators” in the October 1993 firebombing of the Quebec City powersphere, which left 104 dead and plunged much of the region into a disastrous power brownout to which another 500 deaths have been attributed.

Prosecutors charged that the twins used their super-speed powers to plant and set off the bomb, despite claims by the Allen family that those artificially triggered abilities faded after their brief “Tornado Twins” crimefighting careers some 14 years ago.

III

